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27 September 1982

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2627

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'ARAFAT INTERVIEW ON LEAVING BEIRUT

PM131413 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 11-17 Sep 82 pp 13-17

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Salih Qallab aboard Greek ship Atlantis on its way from Beirut to Athens:
"Arafat Grants First Comprehensive Interview After Leaving Beirut to AL-MAJALLAH"--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Many people are wondering why, after leaving Beirut, you are heading for Athens and not an Arab capital.

[Answer] The reason is that, when the battles were raging in Beirut the first invitation I received came from Greek Prime Minister Papandreu and I have responded to it.

[Question] Does this mean that your departure for Greece in this manner has nothing to do with the circumstances and implications of the Beirut battle?

[Answer] I cannot say that it has nothing to do with the circumstances we experienced during the Beirut fighting. Of course, my decision to go directly to Athens from Beirut may be the result of what happened in Beirut during the war, particularly in relation to certain Arab attitudes.

[Question] Now that the Beirut battle is over, would you say that the Arab states provided what was expected of them?

[Answer] The Arab states as a whole did not provide all that was needed, but some of these states made individual efforts. I mention here my contacts with the late King Khalid Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from the very first day of the Israeli invasion, and also with King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

[Question] Does this apply to the military field?

[Answer] It applies to all domains. After the Palestinian and Lebanese forces had borne the brunt of the fighting for 70 days we expected the Arab states to move collectively, but they did not.

[Question] You predicted this war months before it broke out. On the basis of information available to the Palestinian leadership, do you believe that the United States participated directly in the planning of this war?

[Answer] The United States was a full partner in this war. In his recent statements, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz himself revealed that Haig took part in the planning of this operation. The foreign minister of a big power such as the United States does not act in his personal capacity. It has become clear to us that the United States participated with Israel in this war in Lebanon, through military, political, financial and diplomatic support and backing. Let us not forget here that the United States broke the UN record when it vetoed draft resolutions submitted to the Security Council during the war. We can all recall that U.S. officials thanked Israel for its good use of U.S. sophisticated weapons in this war. Some of these weapons were used for the first time ever. Add to this the fact that U.S. envoy Philip Habib simultaneously played the parts of plaintiff, judge and mediator in the negotiations during the war. He sometimes spoke to us on behalf of Israel, other times on behalf of the U.S. administration and other times still on behalf of the Lebanese authorities. I want to put it on record here--and I conveyed this to President Sarkis (?who) had sent me a message with Chief of Intelligence Johnny 'Abduh--that I have paid the bills in full. I have paid the Lebanese bill, the Israeli bill, the U.S. bill, the Arab bill and the international bill.

[Question] Some people are claiming that only international guarantees brought about by Arab pressure and efforts prevented Israel from storming Beirut.

[Answer] On 4 August Israel tried to storm Beirut from four directions covering the areas of the port, al-Tayyunah, the museum, Galerie Sim'an, the airport, and Awza'i. The Israeli forces on that day occupied the airport, the Awza'i area and the Henry Shihab barracks. I can tell you that the Israeli forces almost reached my main office in al-Fakhani in Beirut. Sharon (the Israeli defense minister) frequently threatened that he would reach the Palestinian headquarters. I can tell you that Sharon had the dream of entering my office and holding a press conference there. Begin and Sharon did plan to enter Beirut, capture the Palestinian leaders, put them in chains and take them to Tel Aviv.

In addition to the military battle, we fought a political battle. From the first day of the invasion I held contacts with the late King Khalid, King Fahd and all other Arab leaders, without any exception, including those with whom my relations had been severed such as President Husni Mubarak. I contacted the Arab leaders and held consultations with them. I also held contacts with President Mitterrand and with Brezhnev, Castro, Indira Gandhi and other leaders of Islamic, African and socialist countries. Here I naturally want to voice my great appreciation to those who expressed solidarity with us in these contacts. However, I also want to state that, had it not been for the heroism of the Lebanese and Palestinian people and had the Lebanese and Palestinian forces not fed their flesh to the Israeli tanks, Israel would have swallowed Beirut in its early attempts to storm the capital.

[Question] Do you think that Lebanese President-Elect Bashir al-Jumayyil will sign a peace treaty with Israel?

[Answer] The man installed by Israel as president of Lebanon has declared that one of his objectives is to establish good-neighborly relations with Israel and sign a peace treaty with it. I did not think that he would commit such a mistake and let Israel do what it likes in Lebanon.

[Question] Would a peace treaty with Israel lead to the partitioning of Lebanon?

[Answer] I told my Arab nation that if they did not move to confront the grave danger, we would enter a new era, the Israeli era. If the Arabs are slow to shoulder their responsibilities, I expect that they will regret it, but then it will be too late.

[Question] Some people are claiming that with the departure of the Palestinians from Beirut the phase of armed struggle has ended and that the next phase will be one of political activity for the PLO. What is your comment?

[Answer] The day I and my colleagues boarded the Greek ship to head for our new fate, a Fedayeen group carried out a heroic operation in Jaffa killing 4 Israelis and wounding 17 others. I think that this operation is the best answer to such questions. We declared when we fired the first shot that it was going to be "a revolution until victory." The Palestinian revolution will continue, in the same way as before, until victory.

[Question] Does this also apply to the Lebanese-Israeli front?

[Answer] We adhered to the cease-fire arranged by Philip Habib in July 1981 and we did not fire one shot except in self-defense, but still Israel launched its aggression in agreement with the United States and through the UN forces [lines] to crush and destroy the Palestinian revolution. However, we will continue as before, wherever we may be.

[Question] Some people are saying that there will be terrorist operations in the future.

[Answer] The whole world must realize that only God Almighty knows the nature and dimensions of the coming phase. To those who said yes to this plot and who blessed it and participated in it, I say that they must face the consequences of the plot. I want to say here that the PLO's decision is to continue to struggle with the same method as before, but there is bound to be some reaction to the plot hatched against the entire Arab region.

[Question] Do you expect any change in the U.S. attitude to the Palestine cause and the PLO?

[Answer] Some people like to feed on nonsense. I do not want to delude myself or give my people false hopes, but I tell the United States and others that there will be no peace, security or stability in the region if the Palestinian people's national rights are overlooked. The war has proved that Palestinian meat is bitter and Palestinian bones are not brittle. We insist on our rights and will give up nothing. We have emerged from the war more determined than ever to insist on our rights. They have used all their weapons but failed to break our steadfastness.

[Question] Does the agreement reached in Beirut include evacuation of the Palestinian forces from northern Lebanon and al-Biqa'?

[Answer] Not at all. The agreements reached only concern Beirut, and this is why the international forces were deployed only in Beirut.

[Question] Are there any talks in progress regarding the presence of these Palestinian forces in al-Biqa' and the north?

[Answer] This matter has not been raised at all.

[Question] How do you assess the European attitude to the war?

[Answer] We have noticed a clear change in the European position, in our favor. I want to mention particularly the attitude of Greece and of French President Mitterrand. They were both better than the attitude of many Arabs. I expect a positive development in the future relations between France and the PLO. We have also sensed a change in the U.S. public opinion toward us, and even in the attitude of some congressmen and officials, but nothing has so far materialized at the level of the Reagan administration itself.

[Question] Where will the Palestinian leadership's headquarters be?

[Answer] That is a decision for the Palestinian leadership to make. I personally will adhere to that decision. The PLO Executive Committee, Central Council and National Council will soon meet and adopt the necessary decisions. I will abide by these decisions. I am not a ruler. I am chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

CSO: 4400/475

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PALESTINE BROADCAST ON ISRAELI REJECTION OF PLAN

JN111848 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Palestine broadcast: unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers on the road to revolution and liberation: The Israelis and Americans rejected the Arab summit statement the moment it was issued. The Europeans accepted the statement. It is important that the Europeans say something different from what the Israelis and the Americans say. However, what is more important for us is to realize a basic fact, that the result of the Arab-Israeli struggle is to be decided by us here in the arena of struggle. The stands taken by various international circles, although important, do not decide this struggle.

The significance of the Israeli and U.S. rejection of the Fes summit resolutions is that a political solution for the Arab-Israeli struggle is still very remote and that armed struggle is the tangible reality both at the present time and in the foreseeable future. At this stage, the Arab efforts to realize the Arab will, as manifested in Fes, must be pooled to strengthen Arab steadfastness and confrontation. They must be pooled to strengthen confrontation of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon where the Zionists are still refusing to withdraw from Lebanese territory. Efforts must be pooled to support the forces capable of realizing a balance of power in the Arab-Israeli struggle in order to enable the Arab side to face the enemy and defeat its aggressive expansionist designs.

In short, Arab efforts must be pooled to back the Syrian armed forces, the forces of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist forces because the battle has not ended and will not end without forcing the enemy to withdraw and succumb to the will of the international community. This struggle will not end without enabling the Palestinian Arab people to restore their national legitimate rights.

The Israeli-U.S. rejection not only means that the enemy camp is closing the road to peace but also means that the enemy is determined to continue its policy of aggression and expansion and that the Arabs must mobilize all their resources to confront this enemy and contain its aggression.

CSO: 4400/475

PALESTINE BROADCAST ON SIGNIFICANCE OF FES PLAN

JN112032 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Palestine broadcast: unattributed commentary]

[Text] The resolutions of the recent Arab summit will be commented on, analyzed and discussed for a long time because they are unlike ordinary resolutions that can be issued every day. Undoubtedly, the Arab citizen heard these resolutions and the comments which have so far been made on them. Arab citizens must have paused at two sentences embedded in these resolutions. The first is the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Arab citizens, who are aware of the delicate regional and international situation, hope that no leniency will be allowed in the interpretation of this sentence. Arab citizens demand adherence to the word inalienable so that the Palestinian people's rights will not be allowed to be dissected on the imperialist table.

Another sentence, which is no less important than the first, is the description of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine. Again, the Fes summit approved this expression in perfect clarity. The soleness of the PLO in this representation is not a procedural matter. It pertains not only to the question of who will represent the Palestinians. This description can be elevated to the level of a principle [as heard]. The PLO is the means that is strongly tied to the end. This means that, if the aim is to restore the Palestinian people's rights, the only tool qualified to do so is the PLO.

Why does the Arab citizen insist on adherence to this description? Because the imperialists after having dissected the PLO status, may leave very little on their dissection table. They will endeavor to bring the PLO in as a party to the Palestinian people's representation. This means that the PLO is only one party, among others, that can represent the Palestinian people. This makes it easy for the enemies of the Palestinian people to tamper with their rights. The guarantee against this tampering is this soleness of the PLO in representing the Palestinian people. Therefore, the principle of granting the PLO the description of sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people must be adhered to, regardless of the circumstances.

The status of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people is, therefore, not a procedural matter. The PLO is not a parliamentary bloc that can assume responsibility at a certain phase and then relegate it to some other bloc following a new parliamentary session. The issue certainly goes deeper than that. The PLO is the house of the Palestinian Arab people. In this house, we find the Executive Committee, the National Council, the Central Council, the fighting groups and the popular organizations. These institutions, which speak in the name of the Palestinian Arab people and the Arab nation, can define the Palestinian people's inalienable legitimate rights.

CSO: 4400/475

OPEC SIGNALS NO CHANGE IN OIL STRATEGY

Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 27, 23 Aug 82 pp 1-3

[Text]

OPEC's four-nation monitoring committee indicated there would be no changes in the oil exporters' oil market strategy either now or in the immediate future after a meeting in Vienna on August 20. This was not surprising despite widespread talk of a crisis before the meeting: the committee cannot take decisions on behalf of OPEC as a whole; its function is to watch the oil market and, if it feels that it would be helpful or necessary to call an extraordinary meeting of OPEC ministers, the committee can recommend such a conference.

This was obviously not the case last week at Vienna. The divisions inside OPEC are as wide today as they were when an extraordinary meeting of oil ministers broke up in disarray in July over a refusal by some members to observe production quotas and Saudi Arabia's demand for higher differentials on high-quality African crudes. So another extraordinary meeting would serve no useful purpose. What, in effect, the Oil Ministers of the UAE, Algeria, Indonesia and Venezuela were signalling was that, while they know the patient is ill, they have no cure for a sickness which, if left alone, probably will not prove to be fatal. And in the meantime there is always hope the disease will disappear by itself when the chill winds of winter in the Northern Hemisphere bear better tidings for oil exporters.

Given OPEC's known ability to survive amid a sea of contradictions, one cannot quarrel with the first part of the committee's diagnosis. In the absence of any move by Saudi Arabia to reduce the price of Arabian Light crude, below \$34 per barrel, the pledge by UAE Oil Minister Dr Mana Saeed al-Oteiba to "spare no efforts" to defend that price is entirely appropriate. But his remark that "I myself feel optimistic about the future" sounded suspiciously like whistling in the dark, especially if he was thinking about the near future.

As is usual, the key to the problem lies in Saudi

Arabia. Despite an official statement that the Kingdom's oil production is currently 5.9 million b/d, OPEC sources at Vienna said output was really 5.5 million b/d (the discrepancy may arise from an inclusion by officials of Neutral Zone production. Output of 5.5 million b/d, the lowest by Saudi Arabia for a decade is certainly the figure accepted by the market). Of this, the Aramco partners — Exxon, Texaco, SoCal and Mobil — are now reported to be lifting only 3 million b/d. The remainder is going to Petromin, Saudi Arabia's state oil and minerals company, which normally conducts government-to-government sales or sells oil to national oil companies. Industry sources say Petromin is now considering sales to other would-be purchasers. But even though the spot price for Arabian Light firmed to between \$31.15 and \$31.50 per barrel at the end of last week's trading in Europe, there seems little likelihood that Petromin will attract many customers at the official price.

Saudi Arabia is thus coming under increasing pressure from Aramco companies to reduce its prices and, simultaneously, is losing steadily its share of the world oil market. And this phenomenon is spreading to OPEC as a whole, although non-observance of quotas and price-cutting by certain countries mean that the burden is being shared unevenly inside the organisation. There are divergent figures for current production by OPEC countries: less than 17 million b/d, according to Dr Oteiba ("Let's say 16.9 million for the sake of the exercise"), while Indonesia's Dr Subroto said output in July was 18.2 million b/d, well above the 17.5 million b/d ceiling set by OPEC ministers in March. And figures for individual producers, although unofficial, show a growing tendency by member states to ignore quotas. Iran is understood to be pumping 2.3 million b/d, Venezuela 1.9 million b/d, Libya 1.2 million b/d, Nigeria 1.2-1.4 million b/d and the UAE 1.2 million b/d. All of these figures stand above the official quotas.

Destocking, according to industry sources, is running at between 1 million and 1.5 million b/d and has continued for far longer than OPEC had hoped. "They are drawing on stocks instead of buying because they think oil will be cheaper in the future," OPEC's Secretary General Marc Nan Nguema declared after last week's meeting. "But they are wrong. The reality is that the price will hold."

Much depends, however, on how long Saudi Arabia holds its present price — and there are no indications of any give from Riyadh so far. Another important factor is whether OPEC has got its sums right for overall demand in the non-Communist world in coming months. A figure of 45.5 million b/d quoted

in Vienna is some 2 million b/d higher than projections by at least one oil company.

The outlook for OPEC is therefore far from reassuring. Even the coming of winter is no guarantee of significantly higher sales of oil. Figures for the first quarter of this year, *i.e.* last winter, from the International Energy Agency show that the 21 nations which make up the IEA cut imports of oil by 15.6 per cent when compared to imports in the same period of 1981. While some of this fall from 261 million tonnes in 1981 to 220 million tonnes this year was due to destocking, consumption fell by 7 per cent from 400 million tonnes in 1981 to 371 million tonnes during the first quarter of this year. The IEA attributes some of this fall to greater efficiency in use of energy and a switch to other energy sources as well as to lower levels of economic activity.

And while OPEC's share of the market has been falling, the IEA reported that two non-OPEC producers, Britain and Norway, were able to boost production during the first quarter of this year. British output was up by 7.4 per cent and that of Norway rose by 4.1 per cent, the IEA said. And North Sea oil continues to undercut similar OPEC crudes. Forties crude was selling for \$32.25 to \$32.50 per barrel on the spot market last week, only \$1 dearer than Arabian Light.

News meanwhile that Mexico has received \$1 billion in advance payments from the US for additional deliveries of oil could not have come at a worse time for OPEC exporters. Mexico's exports have been running at about 1.3 million b/d but capacity already exists to boost this to 1.5 million b/d, the target Pemex, the national oil company, had been aiming for earlier this year. What is more, there can be no doubt that Mexico will be straining every sinew to sell even larger quantities of crude: together with Britain, it is arguably the "high absorber" among major oil exporters even at the best of times and the \$1 billion provided by the Americans was part of a financial rescue package intended to stave off default on some \$80 billion of foreign debt. Prior to the oil glut, this newsletter forecast that Mexico, if it adopted a policy of high production, would pose a major threat to an orderly and stable world market for energy because revenue requirements would make it virtually impossible for Mexico to reduce its exports without experiencing acute financial problems. And while it is highly unlikely that the Western banking system will permit a default - the losses would be horrendous - it is clear that Mexico's close encounter with bankruptcy in the past few weeks greatly reinforces our earlier prediction.

Paradoxically, the sudden upsurge by Wall Street bulls last week was another gloomy pointer to a

depressed oil market in coming months. For while buoyant stock markets usually foreshadow good times ahead, the hectic trading in New York and Tokyo on August 17 and on stock markets in Europe the next day was triggered off by the exact opposite. Dr Henry Kaufman, the chief economic analyst of New York's Salomon Bros and Wall Street's guiding light on interest rates, was forecasting a continuing fall in the price of borrowing. This is something that investors around the world have been panting for as the forerunner to a revival in economic activity. But Dr Kaufman's reasoning behind this crystal-gazing was anything but reassuring: corporate borrowers striving to refurbish their balance sheets in the face of extremely fragile finances were cutting stocks and capital expenditures. Dr Kaufman warned that major financial institutions were in no position to follow an aggressive strategy of lending and investing that would be needed to pull the economy of the US out of the dumps and send it on its upward way again.

A third indicator of hard times ahead for oil exporters came from Saudi Arabia's Petromin when it informed its customers for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) that it intended to raise the price for this product to a parity with Arabian Light crude oil on a thermal basis. The move, if it had been implemented at the time of the announcement, would have raised the Saudi Arabian price to \$282 per ton of LPG from the present average price of \$240 per ton based upon Saudi prices of \$225 per ton for propane and \$255 per ton for butane. Petromin's telex message to its customers indicated that LPG might even go above parity by saying that buyers would be entitled to reduce their purchases if LPG prices rose "to a level exceeding 100 per cent of BTU equivalent of the posted price of Arabian Light."

Petromin's Governor Dr Abdulhady al-Taher later explained that the message did not mean there would be an immediate price rise. But he warned that Saudi Arabia, which commands some 30 per cent of the international trade in LPG and is the world's largest producer, reserved its right to increase the price at any time. Petromin's telex message asked clients to state their requirements of LPG and the period for which they would require it and stated that the maximum duration of contracts would be 10 years. At present, LPG contracts usually last for four to five years.

The oil industry is interpreting Petromin's moves as laying the ground work for price rises at the beginning of next year. If this is so, it is the timing of Petromin's actions that is of special interest to the oil market as a whole. If the new price is to stick, buyers must be faced with a tight market for LPG; because Saudi Arabia's output of LPG is derived from

production of crude oil, such a tight market implies low and perhaps still lower oil output from the Kingdom stretching well into 1983.

Buyers of Saudi Arabian LPG, most of them Japanese, are arguing vigorously that the price should be based on less than 100 per cent parity. Dr Taher invited them to Jeddah to talk over their differences and the tussle could be a hard one. Some oil analysts feel that other producers of propane and butane such as Algeria and Indonesia can and will undercut Saudi Arabia if the new price is posted.

In a related development, Panhandle Eastern Corporation of Houston announced that the first shipment of Algerian liquefied natural gas (LNG) will be loaded on September 11. Panhandle is paying \$3.92 per 1 million BTUs, a price that will cause concern in negotiations for deliveries of Algerian gas by pipeline and is understood to have already given its tentative agreement to a price higher than that paid by Panhandle. The American deal could, however, come unstuck: it requires approval by the Reagan administration and could also face challenges in the American courts from Panhandle's clients.

CSO: 4400/457

GULF STATES TURN TO PIPELINES FOR OIL EXPORTS

Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 20 Aug 82 p 3

[Text]

THE vulnerability of traditional tanker routes, has prompted Gulf oil exporters to look to pipelines, which are more secure and also a cheaper way of transporting oil to markets in the West.

Steel pipes crisscrossing thousands of square km of the Arabian Peninsula already pump millions of barrels of oil and natural gas to the Red Sea, bypassing the Straits of Hormuz sea route.

The Arab Gulf Cooperation Council states are working on a major scheme to link the Peninsula to a new 2,000-km strategic pipeline running from Kuwait to the Red Sea or Indian Ocean.

Before the Gulf war slashed exports from Iran and Iraq and overall demand for oil fell, about 16 million barrels per day (bpd) of crude passed through the straits, a quarter of all the oil used in the world.

Even now, about seven million bpd or more than a third of total Opec output is shipped through the channel.

Iran exports almost two million bpd through the straits from its Kharg island terminal, according to industry estimates, and has held tentative discussions on building a pipeline through Turkey to the Mediterranean or the Black Sea.

Experts say it would be almost impossible to close the straits by sinking ships or dropping mines, but any risk of mines or of tankers being fired on would make insurance prohibitive and tanker owners would suspend services.

Pipelines are more secure, they believe.

The move to build new pipelines, besides being strategic, is also based on economics. Pipelines, despite their

vast initial cost, can cut transport costs by saving 3,000 to 8,000 miles on voyages to West Europe.

By a quirk of geology, Saudi Arabia has its main energy reserves on its Gulf coast. The kingdom's major Gulf loading terminal is at Ras Tanurah.

The kingdom was one of the first countries to build a trunk export pipeline, with its 1,700-km tapline from Ras Tanurah to Sidon in Lebanon commissioned in 1950.

The tapline, which has a capacity of 500,000 bpd, has since 1975 been used only to supply small quantities of oil to refineries in Jordan and Lebanon because of political constraints.

Saudi Arabia, however, last year commissioned a 1,200-km 1.6 billion dollar pipeline running from the Abquaiq oilfield on the Gulf coast to the Red Sea port of Yanbu, where it feeds a huge petrochemicals complex and an export terminal.

The initial 1.85 million bpd capacity of the line will probably be increased soon to just under four million, allowing a substantial percentage of the kingdom's production to bypass the Straits of Hormuz, analysts believe. A parallel two billion dollar natural gas liquids line is to be commissioned soon.

Current Saudi output is reckoned to be around six million bpd and its sustainable capacity of the order of 12 million.

Iraq's pipeline from the major Kirkuk oilfields to Turkey has proved the strategic value of lines, the analysts said.

Iraq's only outlet

Since the Gulf war began in September 1980, Iraq's oil export terminals on the Gulf have been closed and its sole export outlet is the Turkish pipeline built in 1977 which is running at an estimated 600,000 bpd, the

analysts said. Iraqi officials have said this may be expanded.

Iraq's Deputy Oil Minister, Abdul Munim Hassan Alwan, said in a recent interview his country was considering building a new pipeline to Yanbu. The cost could be roughly two billion dollars but the financing and size were still being negotiated with Saudi Arabia, he added.

The minister said tentative plans for a pipeline south to the Gulf through Kuwait—which press reports had suggested could have had a capacity of up to one million bpd—had been dropped.

The biggest scheme is the AGCC idea of building a major trunk pipeline possibly from Kuwait, south to a terminal on the Red Sea, in South Yemen, or Oman. Spurs would connect the UAE and Qatar and Iraq might also be connected.

The analysts said it was not clear how far the idea had progressed. AGCC Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara said late last year the idea needed more study.

In its favour, the analysts said, would be shared financing which could make it economically attractive.

CSO: 4400/457

PROFESSOR DESCRIBES SOVIET 'NIGHTMARE' AT KABUL UNIVERSITY

BK041141 Hong Kong AFP in English 1006 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Article by Dilip Ganguly]

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Sept. 4 (AFP)--An Afghan University lecturer who fled his country last week has accused the Soviet-backed government of Babrak Karmal of turning the university into a virtual communist indoctrination centre.

Azam Gul, a 49-year-old professor of agronomy who fled to India with his wife and six children, said his students were distracted by fear. He said he himself had left after being hounded by the Afghan secret service.

"The university has become an academician's nightmare... There is fear of military service, fear of the party members and fear of being killed or summarily executed... All these have turned the university into a centre of the ruling communists," he said.

There were 84 "Soviet advisers" on the campus and not a single decision is taken without their approval, he said.

"The appointment of teaching staff is cleared by none less than Prime Minister Soltan Ali Keshtmand after discussing each and every case with the Soviets, with the result that party people with poor educational record are picked in preference to highly qualified non-party personnel," he said.

The number of students had drastically plunged since the Soviets marched their troops into Afghanistan in December 1979 and now only about half were left, Mr. Gul said.

Students who are party members are not required to attend classes and do not have to sit for entrance examinations, he charged. They roam about in the university campus intimidating people and asking other students to join the party, the lecturer added.

In 1978, when the Marxists seized power in Afghanistan, Kabul University had over 9,500 students and 1,027 teachers. The only other university in Afghanistan is in Jalalabad which had 613 students and 75 teachers.

Mr. Gul, who gained his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Wyoming in the United States and completed his doctorate at Washington State University, said he was constantly being harrassed by agents of the Afghan secret service. He said his house had been searched five times and his car had been stopped on several occasions.

"They were trying to get some evidence against me and tried their best, but got nothing," he said.

He said the authorities had reduced the annual budget of the university from 4.8 million U.S. dollars in 1979 to 3.8 million this year.

Field work was no longer possible and laboratories for the science students no longer functioned. All development projects had been suspended and several departments had been closed down, he said.

He named several party members who have been made faculty chiefs and said regular classes were being held to indoctrinate the students into the communist ideology.

"They call it political economy classes and the duration is three hours a week and attendance for all students is compulsory," he said.

In the past, reports had trickled in from Afghanistan of the present government's effort to turn the university into a party institution. Mr. Gul's observation is considered by area analysts as the first concrete evidence of this.

CSO: 4600/760

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO FINLAND--Dr Habib Mangal, the ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to Moscow, appointed at the same time as the non-resident ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to the Republic of Finland, presented his credentials yesterday to Mauno Koivisto, the president of the Republic of Finland. [Text] [LD060416 [Kabul Radio in English to Europe 1900 GMT 4 Sep 82]

KESHTMAND ATTENDS BULGARIAN RECEPTION--Kabul, September 9, BAKHTAR--Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, this evening attended a reception hosted here by the ambassador of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria to mark the 38th anniversary of the victory of Bulgarian people over fascism. Also attending the reception were some of the members of the Politburo and the Central Committee of the PDPA, members of the Revolutionary Council, ministers and high-ranking civil and military officials and members of diplomatic corps. [Text] [LD100630 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 10 Sep 82]

CSO: 4600/760

KUWAIT PAPER INTERVIEWS EGYPT SLP HEAD

GF140907 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 9 Sep 82 p 19

[Interview with Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Egyptian opposition party, the Socialist Labor Party [SLP], by Hasan Al-Tantawi in Cairo--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] The Labor Party supported the Camp David accords at the beginning. Does your party still support those accords and do you believe that the peace process with Israel is still continuing?

[Answer] The Labor Party's stand on the Camp David accords should be explained. When the party rejected the accords--or as it was called, the framework of peace through which we could reach results on the basic issue, which is the Palestinian issue, in addition to Egypt's situation of ending Israeli occupation of the Sinai--there was more than one opinion voiced in our party. One view presented a clear and strong current opposing the accords, stressing that these accords will not achieve the promised results, and furthermore, they will have a detrimental effect on Egypt's stand and on its relations with its Arab brothers. Another view was to put conditions on some terms of the accords.

During the voting on the two views there was a kind of similarity in the views, even though the members of the people's assembly who preferred to agree on the accords with reservations was in the majority. In the light of this, our official stand in the people's assembly was agreement with reservations. At the end of my speech to the people's assembly at that time, I said that our approval and happiness will come not when the Israeli flag is hoisted on the Israeli Embassy in Cairo, but on the day the Palestinian flag is hoisted on the Palestinian Embassy in Cairo, indicating that the goal is to work for the restoration of the Palestinians' rights and the establishment of their own state. We followed the implementation of the accords and it was clear from the beginning that it is not Israel's policy to carry out its commitment regarding the establishment of autonomous rule for the Palestinians, but instead it intends to destroy all the principles on which the accords were based. As proof of this, it has violated the contents of the accords several times, including its definition of total autonomy rule as a means to organize the population, not to allow sovereignty on the land or rights of legitimacy, etc; its continued establishment of settlements; the statements made by several Israeli officials rejecting withdrawal to the 1967 borders; the continuous

Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon; the extremely poor treatment of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza and its oppression of the municipality heads and mayors and their deportation from the occupied territory. Israel went as far as to announce that Jerusalem is united and is Israel's eternal capital, and it also committed aggression against the Iraqi nuclear plants.

This is why on 26 May 1980--which was the end of the fixed period specified by the accords as the time for concluding the special negotiations for organizing the elections and the agreement on setting up bases for establishing a total autonomy rule--it became clear that they had not come to a conclusion. This day passed and what was agreed upon was not carried out. Therefore, I talked with the foreign minister and questioned him about this issue. I told him: This is not an ordinary day but is a day which involves other related measures, and which was specifically fixed in order to end the negotiations. I asked him: We have heard you say that if this does not take place there will be other alternatives for new solutions, etc., so what is the government's policy? What are the present alternatives, etc?

We did not receive any convincing statement or answer. Thus, we announced at the people's assembly that we will not abide by the stands which we adopted with reservations and that we reject the accords. This happened in June 1980. By this I meant that we were not obliged to agree on any normalization measure presented to the assembly after that time.

On this basis, and from that date, the party's position on the Camp David accords was an opposing position. What surprised us in fact was the resulting gap in the ranks of the Arab nation caused by Egypt's isolation from its Arab brothers and the Arab countries' isolation from Egypt as well. The Arab stand became disintegrated and weak and the friends of Arabs or those who wanted to cooperate with them could not help the Arabs as a group to achieve stability and progress in the region in order to enable the Arab group to participate in the international community as an entity with influence and importance.

[Question] Why didn't the Labor Party send volunteers to aid the Palestinian resistance fighters during the Beirut siege?

[Answer] All the opposition parties, organizations, trade unions and university youths met in the form of what is called committees for supporting the Lebanese and the Palestinian people. The door for volunteering was opened and many Egyptian youths applied. In addition, thousands of Egyptians demonstrated outside of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif University, announcing their resentment and denouncing the ugly criminal act that was the invasion of Lebanon. We made our voices heard by the whole world when we rejected the aggression. We contacted the Palestinian resistance and they made it clear that they needed moral and material support. That is why we sent a ship with medical and material aid to the fighters in Beirut. However, because of the siege of Beirut, the volunteers arrived too late.

[Question] Do you welcome the designation of Cairo as political headquarters for the organization?

[Answer] Cairo was always the natural headquarters for all the Arab organizations in the phases before independence, so this is not something new for Cairo. However, the organization's choice of Tunis, Damascus or any other Arab capital as headquarters will only be a temporary measure until the Palestinian government returns to its basic headquarters in Holy Jerusalem.

[Question] During the crisis, why didn't the Labor Party send high-level envoys to the United Nations, to the Security Council, to international communities or to the big powers in the world as part of the popular Arab support for the stand of the besieged fighters in Beirut?

[Answer] Regarding to the international community, UN committees or the Security Council, I believe that this is being handled by the Egyptian envoy or the Egypt officials. The government was successful to a great extent in demonstrating the stand on the international level and in adopting a new initiative in the Security Council. If we made some remarks, for instance, on the Egyptian envoy's nonwithdrawal during Begin's speech in the United Nations, that was because there was a kind of unanimous stance on withdrawal from the hall during his speech. But on the popular diplomatic level, the party's voice was clear through the supreme committee for supporting the Lebanese and the Palestinian people. We are now thinking about sending envoys from the party to fraternal Arab countries in order to bring the views of official and popular Egypt closer to the Arab world. The isolation has gone on too long and it is time for an Arab reunification, no matter what the reasons for isolation and separation were, because this is the ideal way to carry out the Arab struggle.

[Question] Do you intend to hold a dialogue with the Israeli opposition?

[Answer] This is still unlikely for our party. We believe that the Israeli opposition which is represented by the Israeli Labor Party and various other parties, coordinates with the Israeli Government in order to achieve certain goals of international Zionism. We are not revealing a secret when we say that the Israeli military campaign in Lebanon was approved by the Israeli opposition. So, as a party we treat the Israelis as a single entity, including Jewish personalities who are supporters of peace, such as (Yuri Avneri) or others.

CSO: 4500/297

FIELD MARSHAL OFFERS VIEWS ON VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL MILITARY ISSUES

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 128, 24-30 Jul 82 pp 1-4

[Interview with Maj Gen Abu Ghazalah by 'Abdallah Imam: "I Do Not Know if I Will Become Vice President;" date and place not specified]

[Text] The nature of Marshal 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah's work dictates that he avoid press interviews, although he is a writer who has produced dozens of works and translations -- all of which revolve about a single subject, which the nature of his position makes it mandatory that he not talk about yet. This is the subject of strategy and war. In this exclusive interview with AL-MAJALLAH, Marshal Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah opened his heart and replied to every question directed to him. The meeting went on for 3 hours, and this was the conclusion of it!

Marshal Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, the minister of defense and commander general of the Egyptian armed forces, is one of the most prominent personalities participating in the formulation of Egyptian policy. Many people do not know that Marshal Abu Ghazalah was one of the free officers who took part in the July 1952 revolution. He had graduated from the War College a year earlier, when Kamal-al-Din Husayn recruited him to be a member of the free officers' organization. Lt Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah mentioned his position when he took part in a Third Field Artillery Regiment demonstration when the British took over the Verdun Bridge during the struggles the guerrillas waged against the British following the abrogation of the 1936 treaty.

Not many people know that Marshal Abu Ghazalah has translated 27 books, the most famous of which is "Soviet Military Strategy," a book by Robert MacNamara, "The Drums Have Sounded," and the book "Strategy and Indirect Approaches." He has issued four parts of the book "History of the Art of War" and has written a book on the October 1973 war titled "And the Cannons Went off at Noon."

With Marshal Abu Ghazalah you can open your heart and talk about the most sensitive and complex matters, because he is frank and clear and does not like to hide anything.

When I told him, "People have said that you are America's man in Egypt," he did not get mad or change his calm tone. He said, "It should be expected that some people will say that, because I spent 4 years working in the United States

and formed relationships and friendships during these years -- which is to be considered the essence of my work, regardless of the country in which I am representing my nation. Had I spent those years working in some other country of the world, people would have said the same thing about my relations with that country. These are rumors, because people like to analyze and talk, whether or not they know anything. My answer to the statements you are quoting is that Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah is an Egyptian nationalist who was born in the village of Zuhur al-Umara', District of al-Dilinjat, Governorate of al-Buhayrah, and his first and last allegiance is to his homeland, Egypt."

When I told him, "People talk about the future and say that Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah will be vice president:"

He said, "This is a matter about which I do not know anything, and you are not the only person who has circulated these rumors. People can serve their nation anywhere."

When you talk to him about the National Party, of whose political bureau he is a member, he says that he really is a military man; but he is also a minister of defense. Therefore when he goes to the party's political bureau meetings, he goes in his capacity as minister of defense, not as general commander of the armed forces. He therefore wears civilian clothes when he attends these meetings and, when you talk to him about the change people want, that is, after the massive referendum on policies before 6 October 1981, the date of al-Sadat's death, he says that he must not at the present time get into matters that will not enrich one or allow him to avoid being hungry. However, he is prepared to hold a long conversation with me on military issues which are the essence of his work as a commander general.

Egypt and Lebanon

I started the conversation with him on the most heated topic, that of Lebanon. Although the beginning was serious, he spoke in his customary calm manner. My view, which I presented to him, was "I, as an Egyptian citizen, had hoped for a different position on Egypt's part, because of its weight and status in the Arab world. Egypt could have done a lot. Egypt could also at the very least have recalled Ambassador Sa'd-al-Din Murtada, Egypt's ambassador to Israel, at least just for consultation, as a 'demonstration' of protest."

After hearing my opinion in full, Marshal Abu Ghazalah said, "First of all, I must tell you that Egypt is not all happy about what is going on in Lebanon -- in fact, it considers it a crime against the Arab people, not just the Lebanese or Palestinian people. I have wondered about the fate of the mutual defense treaties and I am also asking about them. Where are they? They are paper treaties that have never been carried out. If we look around ourselves, we will find a thousand and one items of proof. What is the Arab situation now, in the context of these treaties?

"Syria and Iraq are more than one another's enemies. Syria is helping Iran, which is fighting Iraq, and Libya is helping Iran, which is fighting Iraq. Libya has made an alliance with Ethiopia and South Yemen against other axes.

Syria is exposed to invasion; will Jordan, for example, which shares a front with it, move? Where are the mutual defense treaties? They are not in effect; they do not exist. Had the mutual defense treaties existed, Israel would not have dared to do what it did.

"Egypt is part of the Arab world and will remain so. However, we are now in a situation that demands that we feel our way lest our steps be hasty.

"You speak about the withdrawal of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, and I ask you, what would be the effect of that on the war?"

I said "At least it would be a demonstration of protest."

He replied "Is it a matter of demonstrations?

"When we want to do something special in Egypt, we take all the circumstances and expectations into account and adopt what Egyptian Arab national interests dictate. What is the difference between freezing relations and expressing condemnation? What is the difference between what most of the other Arab countries have done and what Egypt has done? Why does Egypt always bear burdens for which it does not have the capacity in times of crisis?"

"Because Egypt has a leading role which is different from that of all Arab countries."

"So why did they isolate Egypt and remove the Arab League headquarters from it? That is a political matter, connected to circumstances, politics, and specific well-known positions. Egypt did what it could under these circumstances, and there is no argument over the fact that Egypt, diplomatically, politically and in the media, has done more than the countries that were exposed to invasion and exposed to assault.

"There have been political crises that have reached the point of war between certain countries while political relations between the countries remained."

Diversification of Arms Sources

Another thorny issue which Marshal Abu Ghazalah dealt with generously was that of the source of arms for the Egyptian army and statements made about the diversification of arms sources. President Reagan said that he would arm Israel so that it would be stronger than the Arab countries as a group.

Marshal Abu Ghazalah said, "We are proceeding in the framework of a specific, conscious plan which requires that Egypt have a deterrent force to prevent any aggression against Egypt and have the power to help Arab countries when any aggression befalls them, if these countries ask for help. Carrying out this plan by diversifying arms, or through the methods we consider appropriate, should be considered no one's business; for President Reagan to say that he will arm Israel so that it can be stronger is his business alone. We are drawing up our plans to cope with the dangers confronting us, and we will cope with them decisively."

I asked "Does the diversification of arms sources mean that Egypt will obtain its arms from the western bloc alone, and not the eastern bloc?"

"No. These are all sources whose arms we consider are suitable for us. The issue is not the eastern bloc or the western bloc -- rather, it is whether the weapons are suited to our needs and our abilities. The arms market is open to us, and we will buy what we need in accordance with our plans in order to develop our armed forces. We also cooperate with the People's Republic of China and with North Korea. Where do these countries lie? In which of the two blocs? Egypt's arms sources are not in the permanent safekeeping of the United States, the West or the East."

The Communist and Zionist Threats

The third thorny issue which I presented to Marshall Abu Ghazalah concerned his repeated statements of fear over the Soviet threat. We are threatened by a danger we do not see, while we pretend not to notice the danger that is in our midst.

I asked Marshal Abu Ghazalah, "In the light of your statements on Gulf security and other statements, what danger actually threatens us? Is it the threat from the Soviet Union or the threat from Israel? The threat of communism or the threat of Zionism?" Marshal Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said, "They are both a threat to the Arab nation, and both to the same extent. The Zionist threat we are talking about is Israel. Israel represents a threat to the Arab nation, Soviet infiltration represents a threat, and western infiltration represents a threat as well. What we say is that we want to live in peace and to keep all threats far removed from us. We do not want to have guardians or anything else. Today, now that the Soviets have gone into the Middle East and have acquired a presence in the Horn of Africa and elsewhere, the Americans have started looking for facilities and bases. If there is no Soviet presence, we will not agree to grant facilities or anything else. Anyone studying national security strategy and planning must see for himself. When you find that there are 69,000 Cubans and Soviets in Africa, what is your position? Are you content to watch and be silent?

"When you look right and left, you see countries around you that are arming themselves heavily. Isn't it your duty, as you set out your strategy and national security plan, to ask why these countries have bought these large volumes of modern arms? What are the threats facing any country? Those are the countries surrounding them, on all sides, that have designs and goals they are trying to achieve. We can only take precautions regarding this constant growth in forces surrounding us and we can never ignore the Soviet presence in Africa. Let me go back to your question. What are the dangers that surround us? I can say that the dangers that surround us are all of ones I mentioned!"

"Including the western danger?"

"This depends on whether there are western military forces threatening Egypt. Are there any? You can answer that question yourself."

"They are not threatening us because we are acting with them, following the same western line."

"Whoever said that we are following the same line as them is deluding himself or not speaking the truth. We are following an Egyptian line. Egyptian strategy and Egypt's national security are what dictate who we must be friends with and who we must be hostile toward. We have an independent will. We have an independent strategy. We have an independent national security plan.

If we have common interests with them, at some stage, we are friendly with them. Does that mean that we are following their caravan? When at some point the Soviets were supplying us with arms, was ours a Soviet line?"

"You said that the threat facing us is the communist threat and the Israeli threat. We know that Israel is America. Therefore America is also a threat that is facing us to the same degree."

He said "There is a peace treaty now between us and Israel which we are not abrogating, or thinking of abrogating. The whole Arab world sees Israel as a danger threatening the Palestinian cause, but if this cause is resolved the situation will be different. As for the connection between Israel and America, that is a different situation also."

I asked "Even as far as Israel goes, your excellency the marshal? There is no doubt that Israel has expansionist designs, even if the Palestinian cause is resolved."

"If Israel has expansionist designs, that is another issue."

A Combat Army and War Production

Marshal Abu Ghazalah was given leave to attend the War Command and Staff College for Artillery Units and Formations at the Stalin Academy in the Soviet Union from 1958 to 1961. He also graduated from the American War College. In Egypt he has held a number of military posts. In the October 1973 war he was the Second Field Army's artillery commander. He traveled to the United States as military attache in 1976 and worked as director of war intelligence in 1979. He was the chief of the war staff of the armed forces in 1980 and has been minister of defense and war production since 1981. Thus he has taken part in all the wars in which Egypt has been involved. This army, which has been involved in all these wars, is now carrying out civilian work. Why? Is the army thereby becoming alienated from its political goal by working in civilian production and becoming alienated from its fundamental mission? The marshal said, "This is absolutely not true at all. We have something called the National Service Agency. This agency has no relationship with the Egyptian armed forces formations, which have the specific mission of protecting the nation's security. This agency is independent and has counterparts in many countries, like the United Kingdom, the United States and the People's Republic of China. It performs these activities to alleviate the economic burden on people in the armed forces. No one says that the armed forces in those countries have deviated from

their basic mission. We established an agency independent of armed forces formations which would perform jobs directly related to Egyptian military interests. This agency has no relationship to training or to units for formations; it is totally independent."

"What about Egyptian war manufacturing?"

"That is making good progress. Today, we are trying to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of some weapons. We are manufacturing artillery and spare parts and are assembling parts for a large number of weapons."

"Is there anything new as far as the military facilities granted to the United States goes?"

"Nothing new has been done other than what has already been announced, and it is not expected that anything will happen before 1983."

"Will we grant facilities or not?"

"The political authorities are the parties concerned with that."

No Forces outside Egypt

Marshall Abu Ghazalah was born on 1 January 1930. He is married and has five children -- three daughters and two sons. He has also received a bachelor's degree in commerce from Cairo University and a master's in business administration.

I asked him,

"Does Egypt have forces abroad?"

"No."

"Do we have experts?"

"We have some instructors in the Sudan."

"Do we have pilots in Iraq?"

"No. We have no soldiers, pilots, seamen or experts outside Egypt."

"Have you gone to Iraq on any secret trip?"

"No. All my movements are public."

The conversation ended.

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CSO: 4504/480

AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA CALLS FOR MASSIVE RETALIATION AGAINST ISRAEL

Tehran KAYHAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic 12 Aug 82 pp 7, 8

[Interview with Iranian Ambassador to Syria Hojjatoleslam Mohtashemi by KAYHAN: "This is the Story of the World Zionist Conspiracy against Lebanon;" date and place not specified]

Text Hojjatoleslam Mohtashemi, the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador to Syria, gave an exclusive interview to the newspaper KEYHAN in which he reviewed the latest political developments the area is going through, especially the tragic situation Lebanon has been experiencing as a consequence of the vile Israeli aggression against it, the state of the Palestinian forces and Iranian volunteer forces, and Arab reactions to the Zionist occupation.

Here is a translation of the text of the conversation:

Question What about your visit to Iran?

Answer Following the Israeli invasion and the occupation of southern Lebanon and some areas of the al-Biqa' by the Zionists, some changes have occurred in the area, especially in Beirut, and some political groups and parties, especially Islamic ones, have been faced with deviant acts which made it necessary that I make a visit to Iran.

Also, a number of members of the AMAL movement's central committee and some devout Lebanese people wanted to make a visit to the Islamic republic and meet with officials to describe Lebanon's political and military conditions, while specifying their stand on the deviant acts which have arisen inside the AMAL movement.

Political Disturbances in the AMAL Movement

Hojjatoleslam Mohtashemi went on to say, "It is unfortunate that the AMAL movement, which arises from the heart of the Lebanese Moslem people, should suffer from certain dangerous deviations following the Israeli incursion into the south because some liberals and expatriates are controlling the affairs of the movement. In spite of the Islamic Republic's intense and firm objections and incessant warnings to Nabih Barri by our officials, we find that the chairman of the AMAL movement is unfortunately pursuing an American platform, since he is participating in the membership of what is called the National Salvation Committee, alongside Bashir al-Jumayyil, the commander of the bloody Phalange militia, Camille Chamoun, and

Ilyas Sarkis, the agents of Zionism. Since the National Salvation Committee meetings have been held under the direct protection of the Israeli forces, this sort of activity, a consequence of corrupt movement leadership, has cost the Lebanese Moslems much money, many lives and their good reputation. This bitter experience should warn the Moslems again that they should be more careful in electing leaders from among their own people and not from among foreign agents and enemies.

"That is the reason for the visit by the devout Lebanese and divinely guided members of the AMAL movement to Iran to describe their position, learn about the views of the Islamic Republic of Iran from close at hand and acquaint our Lebanese Moslem brothers with them."

Question / What about your meeting with the emam and commander?

Answer / It is obvious that I should visit the emam directly after my arrival in Iran to greet him, kiss his hand and present the nation's emam with a report on the severe crises and developments in the area, including those related to Israel's crimes in southern Lebanon and Beirut.

Question / How, however, did the Israeli aggression against Lebanon start?

Answer / On 6 June Israel started its invasion of southern Lebanon along three axes, the coastal axis toward Tyre, Sidon, al-Damur and Beirut, the central axis toward al-Nabatiyah, and a third axis, in the direction of al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon. The Zionists started their invasion with two army divisions, then called reserve forces into southern Lebanon within 48 hours. Then the Israelis drove on, occupying border villages in southern Lebanon. Of course, the areas in southern Lebanon are under the control of the mercenary Sa'd Haddad and Israel therefore did not come up against any resistance there. Rather, it started its attack from these areas.

In the first days, the Israeli forces easily managed to advance toward al-Nabatiyah and the areas around Tyre and to advance toward the northern areas of Lebanon, where a Syrian army division is settled in, in the Jazzin area. In a day or two, after Israel's occupation of these areas its forces came down around Sidon and started to bombard the city by land, air and sea to restore Phalange influence there after many years. In this area they were confronted with severe resistance.

After 5 or 6 days Israel managed to surround and occupy Tyre. In this war, Israel committed crimes that had not been carried out in the history of the wars of the Crusades or previous wars; crimes and outrages like those Israel committed, did not occur, even in the wars before Islam, since it bombed and burned many shelters of Moslem and Palestinian women, children and defenseless old men with napalm bombs in the period of the war.

Therefore the people of southern Lebanon were forcibly evicted to northern Lebanon and Syria, and there are now hundreds of dispossessed families from Beirut, the south and the other war zones in the town of Ba'labakk and elsewhere.

At the present time, the Israeli forces in Lebanon consist of six infantry, mechanized and armored divisions. Military experts say that Israel swept across southern Lebanon with forces that are double the size of those it mobilized on the Jordanian, Syrian and Egyptian fronts in 1967.

Israel now has the objective of eliminating all centers of Lebanese and Palestinian resistance in Lebanon and dividing southern Lebanon up into three areas. Along the borders of the al-Litani River, the mercenary Sa'd Haddad will be in charge. Between al-Litani and the city of Sidon, the forces of the international organization will be in charge. From the boundaries of Sidon to al-Damur and Beirut, the Phalange forces will be in control. Through this plan, Israel wants to prevent any counterattack or resistance to it from south of the al-Litani.

Cutting off the Beirut-Damascus road:

The Zionists managed to cut off the road linking Beirut to Damascus and occupy the town of Bhamdun. Israeli forces move about at will in the al-Hazmiyah area east of Beirut and apportion their bridges of contact to the Phalange militia.

Question / What do the Zionists aim at in invading Lebanon?

On that subject, Hojjatoleslam Mohtashemi, our ambassador to Syria, said "For more than 3 years, that is, since the rising of the sun of the Islamic revolution in Iran, the conditions, reactions and events that the Islamic east have been going through, as a result of the Iranian people's Islamic experiment, differ in essence from what had happened in the stage prior to the revolution. In the past, developments of the situation in the area were oriented toward guaranteeing the interests of the growing forces of arrogance there and the expansion of the influence of western and eastern imperialism. Today, following the triumph of the Islamic revolution in Iran, the developments in the area are oriented toward confrontation with the Islamic revolutionary tide.

"America is now trying to instill crisis conditions in the Islamic east in order to ensure Israel's survival. Saddam's movements against the Islamic revolution and the attempts by agents of sabotage in the Islamic nation are only aimed at preserving the Zionist entity and American influence in the region.

"America, after the successive humiliating defeats it has suffered at the hands of the Islamic revolution, the liberation of Iran from all forms of colonialist domination, the crushing blows being dealt internally to the hypocritical elements (the Mojahedin-e Khalq) and the successive defeats of Saddam's forces (in spite of the support they have received from the east and the west), has been made to feel that there is a threat to the Zionist presence in the region. Thus the great satan launched an attack on southern Lebanon through the usurper Zionist entity under the pretext of evacuating the Palestinian resistance from the Lebanese arena, or the claim that Israel must enjoy secure boundaries!"

Question / Does the Liberation Organization constitute a threat to Israel?

Answer / I have repeatedly stated that the Palestine Liberation Organization, Palestine internally, and all centers of resistance within Lebanon as well do not

and will not constitute any threat to Israel. Israel and America have striven for many years to weaken parties and organizations, including the Islamic forces and the forces of the downtrodden in Lebanon, by provoking them to hasten to fight one another with weapons they buy with the money of Moslems. That sort of thing also has a negative effect on the forces in the region.

The political groups on the stage not only do not constitute any threat to Israel, they help weaken any potential threats against Israel, indeed help eliminate them.

/Question/ Therefore the threats are those that prompted Israel to invade Lebanon.

/Answer/ From my point of view, the area where Israel should sense a threat to its existence is the armed centers of resistance that are preparing themselves to constitute an extension of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

The Palestinian resistance can constitute a threat to Israel when it takes its stand alongside the heroes of the Islamic Iranian revolution.

With the successive victories of the troops of Islam against the infidel Saddamists and the possibilities that the Lebanese and Palestinian centers of resistance can carry the powerful rays of eternal divinity and come to resemble a geographical extension of the force of the Islamic revolution in the region, the collapse of Israel will then become inevitable, and this is where Israel has felt threatened. This also explains the Zionist invasion of southern Lebanon, since Israel hopes, through the crime it has committed, to keep the rays of Islamic revolution out of Lebanon and Palestine.

Israel, in its invasion of southern Lebanon, has hoped that the Palestine Liberation Organization and the deprived peoples in southern Lebanon will retain no status worth mentioning and has sought to keep the forces of upheaval and the forces that have drunk deeply of eternal divine power from taking positions to support these downtrodden forces.

The Israeli forces invaded Lebanon to do away with the armed Moslem resistance in Lebanon and to keep the Islamic revolution in Iran from succeeding in supporting this Islamic resistance by moving toward occupied Palestinian territory. Consequently the Israelis want to prevent the appearance of Iranian Islamic forces in this area, which, if it comes to pass, will condemn the Israeli presence to deterioration and destruction.

/Question/ What is the situation with the Islamic forces that are resisting in Lebanon?

/Answer/ Israel did not expect to meet with resistance or to have its war in Lebanon go on for about 2 months. According to its calculations, a week would have been enough to put an end to Lebanon and the Palestine Liberation Organization, demilitarize the Islamic Lebanese forces, and therefore attain its political and military goals.

The people offered no resistance in the face of Israel, whose experts had worked for more than 10 years to spread dissension, strife and rancor among the various

political factions, organizations and groups on the Lebanese stage and sought to kindle a struggle among these Lebanese forces--to the point where each of them would be true enemy of the other, which Israel and America hoped would lead to the intervention of the Israeli forces in Lebanon, offering an opportunity for salvation for the people there.

One can say that the Israelis managed to reach their objectives to some extent, but they ignored the fact that in addition to the colonialist activity that Lebanon has enlisting, the Lebanese today are witnessing the emergence of an Islamic movement which is extending its rays from the Islamic revolution in Iran and is founded on bases of resistance, patience, and the love of martyrdom. It is a movement totally opposed to America and Israel. This is the Islamic movement; if it has not yet been firmly implanted in the spirits of all Lebanese, a large percentage of them have come to believe in the necessity and importance of it, which also explains the very high morale and the great resistance to the Israeli invasion forces a few people have displayed in Lebanon for more than 2 months.

At the present time, we find a divinely guided devout Moslem group in Beirut which is standing up to Israel under the inspiration of the Islamic revolution, by pursuing the guidance of the emam and leader. This has subjected Israel to enormous losses in the past 2 months of the aggression. These heroic Moslems who are making a stand today and preventing the Israeli occupation of West Beirut are themselves prepared to give up their last drop of blood. These Islamic forces are not connected to any political group or bloc; rather, they are acting only under the banner of Islam, pursuing the same policy the Islamic Republic and the wise leadership of Emam Khomeyni are following in Iran, and fighting Israel in the light of all this. There are also Islamic and non-Islamic Lebanese organizations that have chosen to be silent, capitulate or follow Israel's aggressive line!

At the present time, in Lebanon, Moslem fighting men suspended their contacts or cooperation with some Islamic Lebanese organizations at some point and they are now resisting and standing alongside the Moslem Palestinian heroes. This is the case as far as the forces of Iranian volunteers which are launching a war against Israel and the puppet Phalange militia, by the admission of Israel itself, are concerned. We for our part do not distinguish between our Iranian volunteers and the other soldiers of Islam in Lebanon.

Question / What about the criminal approaches Israel is following in Lebanon?

Hojjatoleslam Mohtashemi answered by stating, "In order to reach its objectives inside Lebanese territory, Israel has not hesitated to commit various crimes, including seduction, terror, intimidation and the elimination of everyone opposed to the blatant Israeli invasion. When the Zionists started their attack on Lebanon, they totally destroyed all the Palestinian refugee camps and killed the women, children and old people who had sought refuge in the shelters from the vicious raids by the Israeli air force, which bombed them and incinerated them with napalm bombs.

"It is worth pointing out that 15,000 young Moslems and Palestinian youths are now suffering in the prisons of the Zionist enemy. The Zionists have also striven to

torture and arrest every Lebanese person offering aid to the deprived Palestinians, while the Israelis are supplying Lebanese who sympathize with them with arms and are assigning them to administer the Lebanese areas they have occupied.

"Thus death is the fate of anyone who refuses to act as Israel's puppet.

"The Friday Imam of Sidon is now being subjected to imprisonment and torture by the Zionists because he refused to cooperate with Israel! There are people who preferred to be silent and deal with the Zionist invaders, and took part in the administration of occupied Lebanese towns and villages in accordance with Israeli policy.

"To deceive the Moslems of southern Lebanon, Israel has supplied everything the people there require at the lowest prices.

"History tells us that the Crusaders worked to spread about debauchery and vice in Andalusia. They distributed wine and offered beautiful but aggressive girls to the Moslem warriors there; after these young people had been corrupted and driven from the mosques into the cabarets, the Crusaders managed to occupy Andalusia (now Spain) in one campaign.

"Today the Americans and the Zionists are repeating the same experience in southern Lebanon, where Israel is prompting naked Jewish girls to sell basic commodities in the towns and villages of southern Lebanon, expose themselves to the young men there, and corrupt them. Israel is thus trying to deceive the Moslem people in southern Lebanon and control this area by spreading about corruption and vice and pretending to be preserving security and providing what the people need. Naturally there are a few perceptive Moslem Lebanese citizens who reject these Zionist approaches, but what do you suppose they can do?

"Israel must realize that its colonialist methods are no longer of any use, after the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran, which will in no way allow the Zionists to establish their presence in Islamic territories for long. Although Israel managed for a short period to push its plans through, in the long run the Islamic revolution will triumph, truth will inevitably prevail over falsehood, and the people will of necessity realize the whole, unadorned truth someday. At that point they will no longer be deceived by the mistakes and tricks of colonialism and Zionism."

A Condemnation of the Zionists' Practices in Lebanon

Our ambassador to Syria went on to say, "A short while after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the people who at the beginning had welcomed the Zionist occupation felt regret over the outrages and criminal acts of corruption which Israel was perpetrating in the occupied areas of Lebanon. These people witnessed the Zionist mercenaries' acts of aggression against Moslem women and the spectacle of Israeli soldiers naked on their tanks," to the Lebanese, even those who are ignorant of Islam, these wretched and corrupt sights /provoked/ feelings of disgust and revulsion at the Israeli forces' conduct and they are waiting for the day in which our Islamic forces will enjoy a final, liberating victory over the forces of Saddamist

apostasy, followed by a rush toward occupied Palestinian territories and the conversion of Lebanon into a cemetery of the Zionist mercenaries."

/Question/ What is the status of our heroic volunteers in Lebanon? What effects have they had there?

/Answer/ The Iranian volunteer forces are in a very good situation. They have a high morale, as the world knows; the world also knows that there are no forces or armies that love martyrdom like the Islamic Iranian forces and they consider it to be a symbol of their victory on the battlefronts.

The day the first airplane transporting Iranian volunteers landed at Damascus airport, as all our smiling devout young people were descending from the airplane, one Islamic Guard volunteer who was carrying a rifle cried out "Where are the Zionist forces? Do they dare to confront the soldiers of Islam?"

Since our heroic volunteers disembarked in Syria, and some of them went to Lebanon, they have been in a state of combat and confrontation with Israel. Our heroes have caused a rise in the morale of the brave Palestinian fighters and Moslem Lebanese youths, since these forces, following the advent of the Iranian volunteers in Lebanon, have carried out night guerrilla activities, totally destroying enemy tanks, like our Islamic forces' operations against the Zionist Saddamist enemy's tanks.

"The intensity of the resistance to the Zionist occupation increased in Lebanon in the wake of the advent of our volunteers there; the news agencies themselves have acknowledged our heroes' operations against the Israeli invaders.

In addition, the advent of our volunteers in Lebanon has greatly helped develop the Islamic forces and inculcate them with revolutionary culture. This one can sense when one understands that about 1,000 Lebanese Moslem volunteers are currently taking positions alongside our Islamic forces and their number is constantly increasing. We hope that we will see that the Lebanese Moslem youths have been transformed into revolutionary guards in a short time. At that time, the destruction of Israel will be inevitable. Israel itself fears the day in which Lebanon is mobilized by the Islamic forces; it especially fears the day in which our Islamic army will eliminate the Zionist Saddam, advances to take its place alongside the Lebanese Moslem people and then begins its holy onslaught of occupied Palestinian territory.

/Question/ How do you view the Syrian response to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon?

/Answer/ Syria is a country in the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which was formed at a time when the Egyptian regime had surrendered to the Zionist entity and the Arab countries betrayed the Palestinian cause, preferring to let Jerusalem remain a prisoner in the hands of the Zionists and America. Therefore the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front arose to confront the intrigues of America and Israel in the area. The fraternal country of Syria stands in the forefront of this front, and Syria has so far opposed American and Israeli plans and conspiracies in the area.

While Syria itself was preparing for an extensive war against Israel and assembling a powerful, well organized army, but before it was wholly prepared to confront

Israel, it clashed with the Zionist forces in their vile war in Lebanon. In this war Syria's air and land forces sustained losses, but in reality it did resist the Israeli aggression. Had it not been for the Syrian army, Israel would have been able easily to occupy extensive areas of Lebanon. Israel, in its invasion, had coveted the al-Biqa' valley, but the severe blows it received from the Syrian forces compelled it to stop at the Bahadun area. In massive areas of the north of Lebanon, the Syrian army stopped the invading Zionist forces' invasion. We hope that the day will come in which the forces of the Islamic Republic will pass beyond the Iraqi barrier to the occupied Palestinian territories and will effectively participate with the Syrian Moslem army alongside our heroic forces in fighting the Zionist occupiers.

/Question/ What is your opinion about the Arab reactions to the Zionist invasion of Lebanon?

/Answer/ The Israeli invasion of Lebanon was preceded by an international political acceptance of this invasion. If we look over the past years thoroughly, we will find that Israel had faced many problems as a consequence of its acts of aggression against the Arab countries and the Palestinians, and America had lost some of its interests and become faced with political problems as a result. Israel had been condemned by the /United/ Nations organization and the International Security Council, had also been exposed to economic pressures by Arab, African and Islamic countries and the decision on the part of a number of countries to sever their political and economic relations with Israel in the wake of aggressions it had committed in the past, and the East and the West had been condemning its crimes.

However, in Israel's current attack on Lebanon, in spite of the vile nature of the crimes and the terrible massacres it has committed against the people of western Beirut, and in spite of brutal bombardments which have never been witnessed before, the world, East and West alike, chose absolute silence in the face of these crimes.

In another area, we find Arab countries holding a meeting or a conference every day to save the American Saddam, but now, after more than 2 months have elapsed since the Israeli occupation of Islamic territory in Lebanon, no conference has been held to review Israeli crimes.

When Habib Bourguiba declares his readiness to host an Arab summit conference, 11 Arab countries respond to him on the subject without really wanting to take part in the proceedings of such a conference, while other Arab countries do not respond to the request at all.

In this regard, Saudi Arabia most impudently announces its total opposition to the convening of this Arab summit conference and says "There is no need to hold the conference--America's efforts to solve the Lebanese problem will suffice," while we all know that America is making every effort in its power to annihilate the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Islamic movements that are present on the Lebanese stage.

The world is now being faced today with polarization between the eastern and western camps, which are fighting one another, while the countries following in the

caravans of these two camps all have a hand in, and previously reached agreement on, the terrible crimes that are being committed against Palestinian rights and the liberation of Jerusalem, and support for the Zionists in their aggression against Lebanon. The lethal silence concerning this aggression on the part of the East and the West and leaders who are America's Arabs is the greatest proof of the great international reconciliation and conspiracy that is aimed at implanting Israel on occupied Palestinian territory to serve the East and the West's interests in the area.

The Invasion of Lebanon To Preserve Saddam's Regime

The ambassador of the Islamic Republic to Damascus, Hojjatoleslam Mohtashemi, went on to say, "What actually concerns the East and the West is that Israel survive. Since preserving Saddam's regime will make this plan a success and guarantee the East and West's interests, the East and the West are trying to preserve Saddam's regime. However, our brave fighting men's successive victories on the front have made the East and the West feel that it is Saddam's imminent, inevitable fall that constitutes a real threat to the Israeli presence in the area. Therefore, /the forces of/ international arrogance have determined to commit their great current crime in Lebanon of exterminating all the perseverant forces there, forming a Zionist Maronite government, compelling the countries situated along the first lines of confrontation with Israel to capitulate and bringing regimes that are subservient to America into a major role in matters. Another element hopes that the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon will extend the life of Saddam's regime, and this explains the flood of offensive military aid Saddam is receiving from regimes that are clients of America's, such as Saudi Arabia and some Persian Gulf countries, at a time when that in reality constitutes an attempt to repair Israel's defense bridges in the area and nothing else."

Hojjatoleslam Mohtashemi went on to say, "In my view, the invasion of southern Lebanon and the effort to implant Saddam's regime is a conspiracy which all the countries in the world are thoroughly familiar with; here we can observe no resistance to this conspiracy except on the part of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front nations."

/Question/ What is Syria's position on the war that has been imposed on Iran?

/Answer/ It is well known that Syria has been and still is condemning the Saddamist aggression against the Islamic Republic. In his various speeches, the Syrian president has held that the Iraqi invasion of Iran is a consequence of and great service to American and Israeli policy in the region. The Syrian position on the Iraqi aggression is still one of calling for the fall of Saddam; that is, Syrian policy in this area is roughly similar to and congruent with the Iranian viewpoint.

The Invasion of Lebanon and Saddam's Aid

In another area of his statements to KAYHAN, Hojjatoleslam Mohstashemi said, "Before all else, the issue which attracts one's attention is the objective of the extensive Israeli aggression against Lebanon. The Americans and Zionists had hoped, through their aggression against the Islamic Republic, by means of Saddam's war, to divert Iran from devoting itself wholly to the Zionist threat and the liberation

of noble Jerusalem. The Zionist entity admitted this when it claimed that the triumph of the Islamic revolution was tantamount to an earthquake in the region, in which the most damaged party was Israel. What Israel actually fears is the threat Islam and the brave Moslem fighting man pose to it; therefore the Iraqi regime launched a war against the Islamic Republic with no justification except to attempt to stand up to our Islamic forces as they continued their sacred onslaught to liberate beloved Jerusalem. Now that 20 months of self-reliance and reliance on eternal divine powers have elapsed in our forces' attainment of their triumphant conquests against the weakening Saddamist army, in spite of the vast accumulation of advanced Russian and American arms with which the latter has been provided, the Zionists felt intense fear over the achievements of our heroic forces, especially the conquest of Khorramshahr, following the expulsion of Saddam's mercenaries beyond the international borders with Iran. Therefore, they began an extensive, savage invasion of Lebanon, in hopes of negating the fall of Saddam and the flow of hundreds of thousands of Islamic soldiers in the form of Iranians and our Iraqi Moslem brothers, and the Iraqi army, to pull Israel out by its roots.

"The Zionists are now making every attempt they can to establish Saddam firmly in the area and surround themselves with a security belt in northern Israel. Therefore, they decided upon their current aggression against Lebanon with full support and agreement from America, to the point where the former American secretary of state, Haig, admitted that and planned for it in advance through the American Pentagon.

"Israel, through its efforts to eliminate the centers of resistance in Lebanon and to exterminate the Palestine Liberation Organization and make Bashir al-Jumayyil the head of affairs there, hastened to tighten the siege of Syria, which has borders with regimes subservient to America in Iraq and Jordan. That, and the fact that Turkey is a member of the Atlantic Alliance and that the American Sixth Fleet is present in the Mediterranean, all are aimed at enticing Syria to bargain with and capitulate to Israel.

"Through the aggression against Lebanon, the great Satan and the Zionist entity have the objective of busying our Islamic forces with this war and consequently preserving Saddam's regime. With the advent of the Phalange regime in Lebanon and the tightening of the siege around Syria, the Islamic East will become a plaything in the hands of American policy. One can summarize this American Zionist scheme as an attempt to diminish the status of the Iranian Islamic revolution.

"It is necessary to take stock of the reasons for Alexander Haig's resignation from the American secretariat of state and the policy the American secretary of defense Caspar Weinberger is pursuing, which is aimed at carrying out a new American scheme in the area.

"The fact that America considers that the Palestine Liberation Organization should be eliminated in Lebanon is what is legitimizing the Islamic revolution in Iran before world public opinion as the only distinctive force which is standing up to Israel in the area. The fact that Palestine Liberation Organization formations are faced with the threat of extermination will draw the Arab peoples' attention to the need to seek to renovate the Palestinian organization. In addition, the

regimes that are subservient to America will be compelled to devote their attention to the Liberation organization, in accordance with general Arab feelings, and renounce their efforts to save Saddam. That will give Iran the opportunity easily to eliminate the Zionist barriers in Iraq and enter the struggle against Israel in concert with the Iraqi Moslem people.

"Therefore the Americans have caused the West to make a display of concern with the cause of the Palestine Liberation Organization and thus to co-opt it.

"America is trying to portray our Islamic forces' attack on Saddam's mercenaries and their penetration of Iraq to bring down Saddam's regime as a basic threat to the Arabs and Arabhood, and America is consequently trying to entice the Arab peoples to work to save Sadam!"

"Finally, the American scheme is now proceeding to eliminate any spirit of resistance within the Palestine Liberation Organization and to bring it to surrender to Saudi-American intrigues. God is generously endowing us with an emerging brave movement inside Lebanon which will persevere in the face of America and Israel and will be able to save the Palestine Liberation Organization leadership from deviation."

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CSO: 4604/45

KHAMENEI: REACTIONARY REGIMES RESPONSIBLE FOR PALESTINIAN SET BACKS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 24 Aug 82 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) - "There is not the least doubt that the U.S. and its agents with the collaboration of the Zionist regime are trying to suppress the flames of the revolution of Palestine, and none other can be expected from the U.S. and its reactionary mercenary regimes, said President Khamenei in a meeting with a group of the matriculating teachers of the Islamic studies here yesterday.

The President said it was predictable that the U.S. would try to abort the Palestinian revolution by conniving with the Zionist regime and maintaining an apparent silence in

the face of the invasion of Lebanon.

He said, "no affliction is more painful than homelessness." He also expressed confidence that the Palestinian nation could be mobilized by drawing on its last experiences by its trust in God, and by maintaining its grudge against all expansionist powers of the West and the East.

President Khamenei also attacked the reactionary regimes in the region, and said that they had taken advantage of the silence Islamic governments and aborted the resistance of the Palestinians.

CSO: 4600/744

FOREIGN MINISTRY BLASTS U.S. ZIONIST PLOT

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 25 Aug 82 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN - In a communique which was released here yesterday, the Iranian Foreign Ministry denounced and condemned the joint plot of the imperialist-Zionist Junta to expel the Palestinian fighters from Lebanon, IRNA said.

The communique said that the recent massacres in Beirut proved the US and its illegitimate child, Israel, were prepared to commit the most abominable crimes to gain their unholy ends.

The statement said that the bloodbath in Lebanon was also evidence of the true American nature of the reactionary regimes which not only remained silent but also indirectly cooperated in the execution of this sinister plot.

"This American-Zionist conspiracy engineered by Philip Habib aimed at ending the Palestinian struggle. It was concerned however with expansion of the Camp David Accords. "It is certain that this sinister plot will go beyond the Lebanese borders," said the communique.

Referring to the 34-year history of the regime occupying the Qods which was full of aggressive moves, against Mos-

lems the statement asserted that the accommodation of Palestinian fighters by the mercenary regimes of Iraq, Jordan etc., was a clear proof of their cooperation in carrying out the plot to scatter and ultimately destroy the Palestinian movement.

The Foreign Ministry also said in its statement that it hoped the plot despite its heavy blow would also serve to awaken the Palestinian leaders and people as to their wrong reliance on reactionary and hypocritical regimes which only used their cause to further their own interests.

It said further that the Palestinians had now better understood that only their dependence on Islam and the Moslem masses that can lead them to freedom, and success.

Calling the Moslem nations and progressive countries in the region to vigilantly counter future plots and aggressive moves of the U.S. and the Zionist regime, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic warned the Moslems and progressive governments that such crimes and tragic incidents were only to be expected as long as the US and global oppressors were present in the region.

MONTAZERI BLASTS REACTIONARIES FOR PASSIVE SILENCE ON LEBANON

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 25 Aug 82 pp 1, 3

[Text]

QOM (IRNA) - In a message to the world Moslems Monday Ayatollah Montazeri referred to the plot of the US and international Zionism in expelling the Palestinian Moslems from Lebanon as an alarm bell for Islam and Islamic countries. He added that more than 30 years of the occupation of the Palestinian lands had proved that governments could not and did not want to liberate Palestine and the first Qiblah of Islam, and that the nations should be mobilized for a crucial war against world Zionism, the enemies of Islam and Arabs.

The Ayatollah reminded that the Moslem people of Lebanon should know that their duty had become heavier in the wake of the expulsion of Palestinian combatants, and that if any of them should choose to remain silent, vis-a-vis the Zionist aggression, he would be as though an accomplice in all the crimes and tyrannies of the Zionist regime.

Referring to the deportation of Palestinians the Ayatollah said that it was a serious conspiracy which had been masterminded by the

United States, upon connivance with the Soviet Union and carried out by the Zionist racists and was a shame to the heads of reactionary and compromising Arab and non-Arab states. By their silence, he said, they had encouraged the United States and the usurper regime of Qods to disperse and banish the Palestinians to countries under the U.S. domination and away from Zionist borders. He said despite the will of the world Moslems, a painful blow had been inflicted upon the Palestinians in the interest of more security for the Zionist regime.

Criticizing the reactionary countries of the region for not dispatching forces and leaving alone the Moslem people of Lebanon, Ayatollah Montazeri reminded that if the leaders of the Palestinian movement had not relied so much on the reactionary and deceitful governments and on the promises of the Eastern Bloc, and if, instead they had created a unity under the auspices of Islam with the Moslem nations, they would not have become victims of the plots of these treacherous governments and

enemies.

“Until when should the Islamic countries be so disunited and abject against the enemies of Islam” said the Ayatollah addressing himself to the Moslem countries, “until when should they not show a momentum against all these crimes and defamation of Islam despite having the spiritual power of Islam and the economic power of oil and other resources upon which the survival of the U.S. and Europe depends.”

The Ayatollah censured the compromising Arab governments” who were treacherous to the holy aspirations of Islam and of Arabs” and warned them against remaining any farther in the hands of the United States and the Zionist regime” like Marionettes” and participate complacently in the “imperialist meetings” such as that in Fez or for promoting imperialist-inspired schemes such as the Camp David accord.

CSO: 4700/745

TEHRAN ARABIC CONDEMNS ARAB SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS

GF121324 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The final outcome of the Fes summit was summarized in the appeal made by King Hasan II to the Zionist enemy following the conclusion of the conference. In his appeal, which was made in French, on behalf of all the Arab rulers, he implored Israel to agree to the peace principles that were announced by the conference.

What begging is more despicable than this and what humiliation is more humiliating than this. After what it did in Lebanon, after killing thousands and banishing hundreds of thousands, after the destruction it inflicted on every inch of Lebanon's land, after killing children, women and old people and after blowing up camps and burning houses, the Arab rulers are extending to Israel the arm of humiliation and submission. They beg their enemy for peace. When did Israel ever think of peace so as to respond to the Arab rulers' appeal?

To Israel peace is nothing but a fiction. Israel considers peace to be restrictive to its freedom of aggression and expansion. The peace that the Zionists understand is the full hegemony over the region and hegemony in the part of the Muslim countries that extends from the Nile to the Euphrates. The day they accomplish all their ambitions and feel secure and tranquil they may then think of peace.

But today, and before the full achievement of all Zionist dreams, peace is an obstacle to these ambitions. Even if they raise the slogan of peace they only do so in order to bargain and achieve other expansionist ambitions. This is the Israel which is known to everyone, especially to the Arab rulers. They know that it does not want peace but wants war. They know that it has ambitions in new Islamic territories. They know all this and still extend the arm of friendship to it and ask it for peace.

What kind of peace is this that they are asking from Israel which was established through aggression? What kind of peace is this that they demand of Israel while the lands of Lebanon and Palestine are still under Zionist occupation? What kind of peace is this while the enemy continues to commit

a new massacre every day and continues to launch new aggression? What kind of peace is this while its armed vehicles continue to circle the sacred house and its soldiers continue to desecrate the holy and sacred land?

They don't want peace. All they want is submission because they know that the enemy does not accept any peace unless all its expansionist ambitions in the Islamic countries are achieved. They know that the enemy has a stubborn and bargaining nature. They have not extended to it the arm of peace but the arm of submission. Because the enemy is extremely obstinate and because it is malicious and haughty it does not accept anything from the other side except submission. According to the Zionist expansionist philosophy, peace is to be requested by the strongest and Israel considers itself to be always the strongest. Thus, it is the one who imposes peace whenever it wills and wherever it wants. According to the Zionist conception it is not yet time for peace because not all goals have been accomplished.

Hence, and in view of this aggressive philosophy and in view of the Zionist enemy's practices throughout its aggressive history we can say that Israel accepts from the Arab rulers only submission because it considers them defeated on the battlefield and a loser has no alternative but submission.

Going back to the conference's final statement and to the nature of its meetings we don't find any of these meetings a sense of strength, bravery or initiative. All the discussions focused on how to please the U.S. administration and on how to bring Mubarak back to the ranks of the Arab rulers. This is what the conference discussed and endorsed in its concluding statement. As for the question of confronting the Zionist enemy, this is a totally forgotten issue. If this is so in conference, then how about the practical arena?

Thus, we have the right to call the Fes conference the surrender conference because it emerged on the principle of submission and was concluded with an appeal of surrender and begging from the Zionist enemy. The rulers themselves no longer brand their conference with appealing names as they used to do in the past. They used to call previous conferences various names such as the conference of initiatives, the conference of confrontation and the conference of challenge. The Fes conference did not acquire any of these names because there is none to match it. The only name that is appropriate for it is the conference of submission.

Through this conference they wanted to bestow legitimacy on the Zionist enemy in the name of political flexibility while forgetting that flexibility in confronting a vicious enemy means conceding some rights. This is what the conference carried on a plate of gold and offered to the Zionist enemy.

The U.S. administration has called, since the eruption of war in Lebanon, for a compromise solution. It meant by this that each party should offer concessions to the other side: Israel by conceding the West Bank where the Palestinian state would be established, and the Arab rulers by

conceding to Israel all the lands that it occupied before 1967 and by recognizing the Zionist entity. The U.S. administration has achieved what it wanted. The rulers conceded at the Fes summit whereas Israel has not because its haughtiness makes it continue to adopt the policy of self-assertion instead of the policy of concession.

Thus the rulers will always continue to be the only ones to concede the rights of the Palestinian people. They will also continue to be the only ones who extend an arm of humiliation and chase after submissive plans in search of what they can use to please their enemy. They alone will continue to wallow in this mire. As for Israel, it will continue to have the upper hand and have full control over them because they wanted this for themselves.

This is one side of the issue. This is the black and dark side. The other side is that there is a people who are determined to regain their usurped legitimate rights. These people have decided to obtain all their undiminished rights from their wicked enemy through every possible means ranging from stones to bullets. These people who are in the West Bank today and who are under the shackles of occupation will write a new history for the nation. The rulers wanted this history to be black and stained with humiliation, servility and submission and the masses want it to be a history of heroism, bravery and resistance.

CSO: 4604/51

TEHRAN ARABIC CITES KHO'INIHA'S SPEECH

GF131624 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] In his address to the martyrs' families and heroes of the Islamic Revolution in Saudi Arabia yesterday, Hojjat Ol-Eslam Musavi Kho'iniha, the imam's representative and the supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, said: We were not allowed in the holy shrines to shout against usurping Israel and America, while Israel attacks the Lebanese people both from land and sea. The chanting of the slogan "Death to Israel" has become a crime in holy Medina.

Addressing his remarks to officials in Saudi Arabia, the imam's representative said: The presence of Iranian pilgrims here is great support for you in confronting the United States and Israel. It is better for you to reach an understanding with the Islamic Republic of Iran and to let me to enter the Prophet's mosque alone. Then you will see the loyalty of most Muslims in all countries to the Islamic Revolution and Imam Khomeyni.

He added: Since you claim that you want to fight against usurping Israel and since you were trying to direct an effective blow against Israel at the Fes summit, then allow us to mobilize the millions of Muslims in Mecca and Medina against the United States and Israel and support you in the fight against the Zionists.

In another part of his speech, the imam's representative said: We consider that Hajj, in addition to being an occasion for worshipping, is a golden opportunity for salvation and for discussing the social and political issues concerning the oppressed Muslims. He also said: The United States tries its best to create problems between us and the government of Saudi Arabia during the days of Hajj in order to achieve its objectives, but it is mistaken in this ploy, because our people under the leadership of Khomeyni have been and are still adhering to their unity and will never turn a blind eye to the number one enemy of the oppressed of the world.

CSO: 4604/51

TEHRAN HITS WESTERN RADIO COVERAGE OF MECCA PILGRIMAGE

GF031058 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 1 Sep 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The True Identity of Western Radios"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: In the name of God we begin our weekly Wednesday program entitled "The True Identity of Western Radios" by praying that the Muslims and the oppressed, who believe in no other system but that of God's and who struggle against the rest of the infidel systems, will move consciously and wisely to abort the conspiracies and plots hatched by the enemies of Islam. We also wish success to all our Muslim brethren in their auspicious work.

Dear listeners, the month of pilgrimage has come once again and, as in the case of previous years, millions of Muslims from all corners of the world are preparing to participate in this great Islamic, political, religious and [word indistinct] congress with a view to strengthening their relations with God and to discussing and possibly resolving the problems of the world Muslims and the oppressed. Regrettably, prior to the Islamic Revolution's victory, the colonialists and the imperialists exploited the meaning of pilgrimage just as in the case of other Islamic values and ceremonies. What was left behind from this great occasion was merely an ostentatious display. God be praised that after the victory achieved by the Islamic Revolution in Iran and after the spreading of the Islamic movement, the Muslim masses, who, deceived by imperialist conspiracies in remaining docile for many long years, began to gradually recall their noble heritage and understand the reality of Islam. This awakening has been to such an extent that the Muslim masses are now moving in the direction of converting the pilgrimage and the Ka'ba into major institutions for resolving the problems of Muslims.

It is an indisputable fact that if through the unity of this great congress a force is created--and if this force is used properly and in the right direction--the world usurping oppressive forces will no longer be able to plunder the rich resources belonging to the Muslims. Nor will they be able to shed the blood of innocent and defenseless people with their deadly arms. In fact, if pilgrimage regains its actual meaning, a handful of Zionists and Jews will not be able to massacre defenseless Muslims in Lebanon and Palestine. Nor will they be able to interfere in all their affairs and

impose a Zionist president on them. If this great force is properly utilized, the Muslim masses of the region will not allow the arch-Satan on the other side of the world to interfere in the internal affairs and destiny of the Muslims through its pawns and lackeys in the region.

Undoubtedly, the realization of this state of affairs will put an end to the existence of usurpers and plunderous elements. In fact, they will be wiped off the face of the earth. Undoubtedly, the continuation of the existence of such elements is linked with exploitation. They cannot continue their disgusting life without shedding the blood of the people who lack vigilance and who live in captivity. This is why imperialists and usurpers are endeavoring to prevent any move which may help people in captivity become conscious and wise. Taking this as a starting point, it may well be said that they cannot remain silent toward the pilgrimage ceremony which inspires and activates Muslim masses in their millions. Nor can they remain inactive in this respect. They will definitely resort to every contemptuous move with a view to dispersing this ceremony or converting it into one which would be in line with their wishes.

This is why we have included this question in this week's program entitled "The True Identity of Western Radios." The examples we shall present will help you understand how the imperialists and the usurpers endeavor to prevent the organization of the great congress of the Muslims in a proper--a way which would reflect its true meaning--and how they have brought their mouthpieces on the scene to achieve this objective.

First of all, let us hear together part of a commentary written by an American commentator--a commentary which has been aired by the American [presumably Voice of America] and other Western radios:

"Ayatollah Khomeyni has appointed Kho'iniha as the leader of the Iranian pilgrims to the pilgrimage ceremony in Mecca in September. He has asked Kho'iniha to create disorder and unrest among the 2 million Muslims who will be visiting God's shrine from numerous countries around the world. Ayatollah Khomeyni told Kho'iniha that he should not be afraid of the conservative visitors who arrive in Mecca only to perform their religious duties and who do not want to take part in creating discord and unrest in God's shrine. Nor should Kho'iniha heed the wishes of the said conservative pilgrims. Instead, he should force them to create discord and unrest."

In continuing his commentary, the mercenary commentator of U.S. imperialism states the following with a view to creating a pessimistic attitude in the world Muslims against the Islamic Revolution and the Iranian Muslims:

"Ayatollah Khomeyni, who has claimed that [word indistinct] Islam should be the official religion of all the Muslims of the world, has issued the necessary orders to Kho'iniha to resort to every kind of propaganda to [words indistinct] and force the world Muslims to accept and support the views of Ayatollah Khomeyni."

In another part of his commentary, the said commentator states the following while referring to Khomeyni's appointment of Kho'iniha as the leader of the Iranian pilgrims:

"Ayatollah Khomeyni has asked Kho'iniha to send a group of terrorists from Iran disguised as pilgrims to organize sacred terrorist activities in Mecca and Medina if necessary."

As you have heard, there is no link between Imam Khomeyni's decree and the unfounded remarks Western radios have been trying to attribute to the imam. As you have heard in his decree, the imam's greatest recommendation was for unity among the world Muslims. This was aimed at preventing every kind of discord among them and exposing the crimes and conspiracies of imperialist forces in Muslim countries.

While Western radios continued emphatically to air such rumors, they also directed attacks on Hojjat Ol-Eslam Kho'iniha. They said:

"Musavi-Kho'iniha was Hojjat Ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani's deputy in the Islamic Consultative Assembly in the past. He was also the leader of the students pursuing Ayatollah Khomeyni's line during the time of American hostages in Tehran. It is being rumored that he is a communist and member of the Tudeh Party and has infiltrated the ranks of the mullahs in Qom and Tehran."

There are very few people who do not know that Hojjat Ol-Eslam Kho'iniha is among the ranks of the freedom fighters of the world, particularly among Islamic countries and supporters of the Islamic Revolution. He is one of the most active deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. He is also among the most active people who wage a struggle against idolatrous elements. One of his most important achievements was the relations he established with the students--the followers of Khomeyni's line--who occupied the U.S. espionage center and took the U.S. spies as hostages. By exposing the crimes and interferences of U.S. imperialism in Iran and in the region, he dealt extremely hard blows on it.

However, imperialism and its pawns do not stop with spreading unfounded and distorted reports. They also make threats. Here is an example:

"U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has warned the Islamic Government of Iran to refrain from directing an attack against Saudi Arabia. Taking part in a TV interview, Weinberger warned that if Iran moves to export its Islamic revolution to Saudi Arabia it will meet with U.S. reaction."

Another of the so-called threats made by the U.S. administration is as follows:

"The U.S. administration is preparing for air, sea and land exercises in Oman in autumn. The U.S. objective is to assure oil producing Persian Gulf states that the United States can rush to their aid if necessary. Apart

from this, the said exercises constitute a warning to Iran. That is to say, Iran should understand that if it moves to threaten the United States by using its military or other means to overthrow conservative Arab regimes, it will meet with a very strong U.S. reaction. And, according to a statement made by a U.S. official, the Reagan administration wants to assure Saudi Arabia in particular."

However, regardless of their unfounded rumors, propaganda and so-called threats, the enemies of Islam and of the oppressed of the world will be forced to kneel before the strong will of the struggling Muslims. They will not be able to create any obstacle at all.

With the assistance of God, victory is at hand.

CSO: 4654/437

REPORTAGE ON ACTIVITIES AGAINST 'HYPOCRITES'

Twelve Killed in Tehran

GF130850 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 24 Aug 82 p 2

[Text] News Service--During the course of several armed clashes between the hypocrites and the always-aware guard brothers of the committees in Tehran streets, a total of 12 hypocrites were annihilated and another 12 were arrested and a quantity of arms, ammunition and interorganizational documents were discovered and confiscated.

The spokesman for the public relations department of the Central Islamic Revolution Committees, in an exclusive conversation with the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI news bureau correspondent announced this and added that the clashes occurred in seven Tehran districts. He added:

At 2130 last night a white Peykan was stopped because of the suspicion of the committee guards while it was traveling in the direction of Sar-Asiyab-e Mehrabad from Azadi Square. After a command to halt, the occupants of the car began shooting at the guards. The brother guards returned the fire and killed one of the hypocrites. Another one, who was wounded, was then arrested. The car used by the hypocrites, which was a stolen vehicle, was taken by the brother guards after the clash and a quantity of arms and documents were discovered inside.

The spokesman added: At 0640 today during a clash between a brother guard of the committee and an armed hypocrite on Qazvin Avenue, the hypocrite was annihilated and his weapon captured. A similar incident occurred at 21 Metri Street in Jay when a hypocrite was killed in a clash with a guard. In this incident a Colt-38 and 10 rounds of ammunition were discovered. On Dr Hushiar Avenue a hypocrite who had not heeded the shout to halt on Dr Hushiar Avenue was chased by the brother guards and shot dead when he entered a house and attempted to fire on the guards from the roof. One Colt was discovered on his body.

At 0720 this morning the brother guards of the committee received a call concerning an attempted blackmail of residents of a house on Vozara Avenue by a hypocrite using a grenade. They were immediately dispatched to the location and were able to annihilate the hypocrite after

surrounding the house. The brother guards were dispatched so fast that the hypocrite was unable to use his grenade and was not even able to take a dinar [as published] from the owner of the house.

According to the same spokesman, the committees, with the aid of units dispatched by the prosecutor's office, discovered a hypocrite communal house at 1145. The house was located on Shamsabad Avenue in Majidiyeh. When the hypocrites within refused to surrender the guards entered the house and annihilated three of them. They included two females and a male. The discovery of the house resulted in the seizure of some arms and inter-organizational documents.

Guards Capture 'Hypocrites'

GF130526 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 24 Aug 82 p 2

[Text] Four hypocrites were annihilated and another one arrested following the discovery of a communal house in Dr Fatemi Avenue. The spokesman for the public relations department of the Central Islamic Revolution Committees told our reporter the following:

The discovery of the communal house occurred at 1000 today as part of the Martyr Sadduqi Operation. He added: During the discovery and capture of the house a small child was found alive and a considerable quantity of arms, ammunition and interorganizational documents were discovered. One guard, 'Alireza Javid, was martyred in the operations and two other guards were wounded.

Capture in Khuzestan

GF131552 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 26 Aug 82 p 2

[Excerpts] Regarding the overthrow of the murdering and American-hired hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] in Khuzestan this morning, the public relations department of the Islamic Revolution Committees issued a communique. The text of the communique is as follows:

Again your ready-to-die children, the Islamic Revolution Guards of Khuzestan fearlessly attacked the safe houses of the corrupted who are on the decline and dealt severe blows to this weak group. This brave operation ended in the killing and arrest of more than 10 hired murderers and the seizing of a considerable amount of arms and ammunition. The Islamic Revolution Guards also found documents belonging to the organization, thus effectively neutralizing many assassination plots. These hypocrites who carried the orders of the Eastern and Western devils were organizing cadres and important members of the hypocrites minigroup that had carried out many assassination and terrorist operations and penetrated military bases and stole ammunition. They also identified faithful, Muslim and combatant people and sent this information and other they had gathered in important and strategic war areas out of the country.

With the arrest of these unpaid hirelings and mercenaries of world imperialism, many plots were neutralized. The following are some of these plots:

1. Plot to kill Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi, commander of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic Army.
2. Plot to kill Brother Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards.
3. Plot to kill Hojjat Ol-Eslam Musavi Jazayeri, a representative of the imam and the Friday imam of Ahvaz.
4. Plot to kill brother engineer Gharazi, the oil minister.
5. Plot to kill Mojbat Ol-Eslam Araki, the respected religious leader of the Khuzestan Province.
6. Plot to kill more than 200 mobilized guards who had traveled to the south to participate in the war against the infidel Saddam.
7. Plot to kill the respected governor of Khuzestan.
8. Plot to kill many faithful people and personnel of the Islamic Republic Army.
9. Plot to plant a bomb in the Islamic Council library of the 92d Armored Division.
10. Plot to steal more than 300 Kalashnikovs from an armory.

The names of some of the defunct and arrested leaders of the hypocrites who had gone to Khuzestan to fill vacant positions in their organization after their organizing cadres in Khuzestan had been beaten by the ready-to-die guards of the Islamic Revolution Committees is as follows:

1. 'Isa Khademi, alias Iraj, Reza, and Hoseyn; leader of the organization in Khuzestan, the person in charge of the military and security of the organization, and leader of the special terrorist groups to kill officials in Khuzestan.
2. Mas'ud Bazargan, alias Abulqasem, Mansur, Shahrukh and Hoseyn Akbari; head of finances and military preparations, organizer of weapons seizures in different cities and, the person in charge of plots to kill national figures and penetrate military bases.
3. Mohamad Haqiqat, alias Shahin and Arsalan; commander and planner of assassinations, guerrilla activities and reconnaissance in Khuzestan Province and leader of many terrorist teams.
4. Hasan Safari, alias Sa'id and Ne'mat; head of the organization in Abadan.

5. 'Ali Mahuleh; security chief of the organization in Masjed Soleyman Province.
6. Mohamad Mahuleh, alias Hushang; one of the ringleaders of the organization.
7. Simin Dahdashti, alias Sorayya; head of the women's terrorist team.
8. Ramezan Gahva'i, alias 'Abbas and Majid; active member of a terrorist team.
9. Ahmad Pakseresht; he channeled money for the organization in Ahvaz and also designed and fashioned handmade weapons.
10. Mohamad Reza Nowruzi; he was in charge of concealing arms and ammunition for the organization.
11. Mohamad Ebrahim Tond-Dast Tabarri; a labor and clerical cadre.
12. Hamid Marvani; he was in charge of education for the organization.
13. Reza Heydari; member of a terrorist team.
14. Abdulreza Mohuleh; a member of the organization.

[Signed] Public Relations Department of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Committees

Executions Reported

GF132024 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Sep 82 p 13

[Text] On the order of the Babol Islamic Revolution Court, five elements of U.S. minigroups were sentenced to death for participating in armed attempts to overthrow the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The sentences were carried out yesterday. The five who were executed were:

1. Hasan Shirafkan-Nezhadeh, son of Mahmud, alias Hasan Najjar.
2. Ramezan'ali Farajpur-Nafti, alias Babak, son of (Abdolmanaf).
3. Javad Owladi-Razand-Khaneqah, alias Mehrzad Mehrjuyan and Ashaq.
4. Seyyed Esma'il Purmus, son of Ebrahim, who was accused of attempting to overthrow the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, membership in the hypocrite minigroup, participation in street clashes which resulted in the wounding of Hezbollahi individuals, finding safe houses, recruiting misguided individuals for guerrilla actions and dispatching them into the forests to collect money and participate in military operations, and supplying them with explosives.

5. Mohammad Yusefpur, son of Mohammad Reza, who was accused of membership in the military branch of Ashraf Dehqan Feda'iyan, participation in clashes and possession of arms, ammunition and explosives.

Kazerun Court Sentences

GF150437 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 2 Sep 82 p 17

[Text] Kazerun Islamic Revolution Court has issued the following verdicts on the cases of 5 hypocrites and 23 individuals accused of dealing in drugs:

1. Farideh Rahsepar, daughter of Mohammad Rahim, received a 5-year prison term for supporting the hypocrite organization. [Mojahedin-e Khalq]

2. Nasrin Panahi, daughter of Mohammad, received a 5-year term for support and cooperation with the hypocrites.

3, 4 and 5 [as published]. Farzaneh Tavvakol, daughter of 'Ali; Mariam Panahi, daughter of Mohammad, and Allahdavani, son of Heydar, were each given a 10-year prison term for cooperation with the hypocrites in the case of the first two and cooperation with Peykar organization in case of the last individual.

According to the same report, the following 6 individuals received prison terms and sentences ranging from 6 months to 2 years in prison as well as 70 lashes for purchase or sale of drugs:

Asadollah Niakan, son of Mashallah; Mohammad Reza Fakhkharnezhad, son of Khodakhast; Hoseyn Jangi, son of Asghar; Nematollah Arjmand, son of 'Abbas 'Ali; Nasrollah Kholqi, son of Fariborz; Amrollah Gholaman.

In this connection, another 17 were sentenced to 70 lashes each and the sentences were carried out against them.

The end of the report states: Morteza Ra'isi was sentenced to retribution for the first time in Kazerun Islamic Revolution Court for wounding a Hezbollahi brother last year.

CSO: 4640/474

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES, OTHERS EXECUTED

GF150619 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Sep 82 p 13

[Excerpts] According to the verdicts of Esfahan, West Islamabad, Bakhtaran, Urumiyeh and Rafsanjan Islamic Revolution Courts, 12 people accused of various crimes were sentenced to death and the verdicts were carried out for all of them. Their crimes ranged from armed operations against the Islamic Republic to espionage for Iraq, assassinations or attempted assassinations, pederasty and adultery.

According to a report by the IRNA correspondent in Bakhtaran, Khodadad Gholami, son of 'Ali Akbar, was sentenced to execution by the West Islamabad Revolution Court for being in charge of the team which attempted to assassinate Hojjat ol-Eslam Movvahedi-Qomi, Shar' magistrate and Friday imam of Islamabad and martyred a policeman named 'Abdolqasem Omidi, on 30 August 1982 in West Islamabad and for being a military official of the operational teams of the hypocrite minigroup [Mojahedin-e Khalq]. The sentence was carried out on 30 August in that city.

On the order of Islamic Revolution courts of Bakhtaran and Urumiyeh, 10 counterrevolutionaries were sentenced to death or life imprisonment. The names of those executed are:

Bakhtaran:

1. Hasan (Visi), son of 'Abdollah, for spying against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the puppet regime of Saddam.
2. Gholam'ali Gorgin-Paveh, son of Mohammad, for cooperation with the defunct Komeleh Party to overthrow the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
3. Sohrab Gholam'ali, son of Shamsollah, for close cooperation with the heads of the defunct Komeleh Party to overthrow the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
4. Hoseyn Hatami, son of Mohammad Hoseyn, a drug smuggler with a long record of transport of drugs.

Urumiyeh:

1. Naser Feyzaii, son of 'Abdollah, for membership in the defunct Democratic Party.
2. (Kamel) Mostafazadeh, son of Mohammad, for close cooperation with the defunct Komeleh Party in its armed actions against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and also for being in charge of the political and propaganda division of that party.
3. Osman Dastres, son of Sheykh Mohammad, for espionage against the Islamic Republic of Iran for the benefit of the puppet Ba'thist regime in Iraq and for transport of illegal goods and unlicensed arms.
4. Bahram Ertebati, son of 'Ali, for active participation in the distribution of drugs and having 830 grams of heroin in his possession, and also for having a long record of dealing in drugs.

The verdicts were carried out early last week.

According to a report by IRNA, three corrupt ones, 'Ali Maherani, son of Reza; Akbar Ja'fari, son of Mostafa and Rahim Soltani, son of 'Ali, were sentenced to execution by the Esfahan Islamic Revolution Court--approved by Qom Supreme Court--for committing pederasty. The verdicts were carried out on the morning of Friday, 27 August.

The Khoy Islamic Revolution Court sentenced four supporters of hypocrites to jail terms following an investigation of their cases.

CSO: 4640/474

GUARDS' COMMUNIQUE REPORTS CRUSHING OF PEYKAR MINIGROUP

GF112015 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Communiqué issued by the Islamic Revolution Guards of Khuzestan--date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. "The people need but three things: security, justice and good things in plenty"-- Imam Sadeq, peace be upon him. O ever-present Hezbollahi nation! Once again your self-sacrificing offspring and the guards of the Islamic ideology have succeeded in crushing a group of members of the apostate minigroup and in arresting some of the members, so that they may receive retribution for their heretical American misdeeds. With the cooperation of the ubiquitous martyr-nurturing nation and the coordination of the Islamic revolution prosecutor, the Islamic Revolution Guards of Khuzestan succeeded in identifying and arresting the revolutionary Peykar minigroup which had seceded some time back from the American Peykar organization and broke away from the revolutionary Peykar party for purposes of setting up new war-waging installations in Ahvaz and Khuzestan. After installations of this organization were destroyed the following persons were arrested:

1. Yusof Hamidi, alias Jalil, in charge of the revolutionary Peykar and the Khuzestan Peykar organization.
2. Mehdi (Naqi) Mamal, alias Jalal, in charge of the group's communications.
3. Mas'ud Jarrah, alias Hoseyn, in charge of the organization's nucleus.
4. Kazem (Nassari), aliases Na'im and Naser, also in charge of the organization's nucleus.
5. Kazem 'Abedi Hamzeh, aliases Jasem and Karim.
6. Sadreddin Hasemizadeh, alias Bahram.
7. Sirus Afshin, alias Bahman.

8. Mansur Baharlui, alias Nader.
9. Khashayar (Asef), alias Reza.
10. Mohammad Reza Heydarshenas, aliases Mohsen and Heydar.
11. 'Abdozzahra 'Ebadi.

In conclusion the Islamic Revolution Guards of Khuzestan thank the Hezbollahi nation and request that according to the imam's decree, all of us should be part of a 36-million strong intelligence force, just as we have been up to now.

[Signed] The Islamic Revolution Guards of Khuzestan

CSO: 4640/474

'CONFessions' MADE BY QOTBZADEH AT COUP TRIAL

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 23 Aug 82 pp 1, 3, 4

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) — "Sadeq Qotbzadeh's trial is based on his own confessions, the court will not rely on the statements of others, including the parties charged with him, if they are not proved," announced the Armed Forces Court's Chief Judge Hojjatoleslam Mohammadi Reyshahri Saturday.

The judge was speaking in the third and last session of the trial and added that the court would acquit the accused if he was found innocent. The court, Reyshahri noted, was only concerned with implementing the rules of Allah and establishing justice. Following this, Qotbzadeh talked about the points in the indictment and said he accepted the first point i.e. leading a group to overthrow the Islamic Republic as his main charge.

Reciting his charged, Qotbzadeh admitted to collaborating with some military personnel. He noted that his alleged financial support for the group was in fact true.

Then Qotbzadeh spoke on the Amol incident last January, in which the counterrevolution in Amol, a Caspian Sea town, massacred tens of innocent people. Some 34 terrorists

were also killed and local people subdued the insurgents. Qotbzadeh said he had only given some clothes to the counterrevolutionary group involved and other than that, he had had not contact with the group. He denied any contact with the Qashqais, a nomad tribe in the south of Iran.

Explaining his sending representatives abroad to raise money and obtain information, Qotbzadeh said he had sent them only to receive information about other people's attitudes in regard to a coup in Iran.

On establishing contact with the Socialist International he said he had had contact with them for some 15 years.

Qotbzadeh then confessed to having sent envoys to Shariatmadari to get his support and cooperation.

He denied seeking arms and ammunition abroad.

Qotbzadeh admitted to having agreed with taking over the IRGC centers, committees, the IRIB (Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting) and with destroying the residence and person of Imam Khomeini. He said he had changed his mind regarding the Imam but admitted he could not prove this.

He also confessed to providing his group with a house nearby the residence of Imam Khomeini for observation purposes and undertaking measures for the release of a terrorist in the counterrevolutionary pro-defunct shah Pars Group by the name of Asghar Mohajer. In this connection he offered half a million rials in bribes.

He also admitted to having asked for the freedom of one of the MKO terrorists from prison and having helped a counterrevolutionary person obtain a passport.

After hearing Qotbzadeh explain the points in his indictment, Reyshahri referring to Qotbzadeh's separating definitions for 'system' and 'the form of ruling,' said the two terms were one and were closely interrelated and they could never be separated as Qotbzadeh separated them in the first session of the hearing. (Qotbzadeh had said he was against the status quo, not the system of the Islamic Republic.)

Reyshahri added that the Islamic Republic system was inseparable from the institutions of the constitution of the Islamic Republic.

Reyshahri then reminded Qotbzadeh of his remark on believing in the constitution, and asked him how could he respect the constitution and still try to depose people who were holding posts by virtue of that same constitution. He said Qotbzadeh's justifications were for a wrong deed and no body could defend wrong.

Referring to Qotbzadeh's charges of alleged violations of the constitution and what he termed repression in the country. Hojjatoleslam Reyshahri

said the Islamic Republic and the constitution allowed all political parties, and various associations to operate freely provided they did not conspire against the Islamic Republic. He added according to the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, no one had the right to stop another from joining any party, or compelling him to join. He questioned Qotbzadeh on the points of the violations of the constitution and on what were the specific points where repression was taking place in the country.

He then added that in a society where anyone was able to rebel, conspire and undertake military measures on the pretext of what he considered violations of the constitution, only the law of the jungle would rule. He noted Qotbzadeh had not right to rebel, for he was not chosen by anyone, neither the people, nor God to do so, and said his act was a plot.

He said the documents indicated that Qotbzadeh was planning to take power in his own hands, rather than transferring it, as claimed by him in the hearings.

Referring to Qotbzadeh's remarks on having had no contact with the Qashqai tribe, Reyshahri recited Qotbzadeh's own statements in which he admitted knowing that tribe from before and trying to get in touch with them.

In those statements, Qotbzadeh said that he asked one of his acquaintances who was in touch with Khosroe Qashqai to contact the latter.

Speaking on the attempt to destroy the residence of Imam Khomeini, the judge of

the armed forces tribunals said one of the people charged in the case had said that Qotbzadeh had volunteered himself for implementing the plan to destroy Imam's residence and thereby martyr the Imam.

Discussing the statements of other people involved in the plot, Reyshahri said everything attested to the fact that the first move in the conspiracy was martyring Imam Khomeini.

He said the group planned to send a mission to Saudi Arabia to raise money for their purposes. This, continued Reyshahri, was carried out by Mehdi Mahdavi, a fraudulent man who had posed as a religious clergy. He quoted Mahdavi, and said the amount was some 80 million marks. But later, it changed to 10 million marks.

The Qotbzadeh answered Hojjatoleslam Reyshahri's questions. He said he had been cooperating politically and economically with Hector Villalon an Argentine businessman now residing in Paris, for he could give Qotbzadeh information. He added that he had sent Villalon a list of arms he needed, but received no reply.

Qotbzadeh then said he realized later that he had made a mistake in sending that list to Villalon.

Describing the Socialist International, Qotbzadeh said they were among the most active organizations in Europe and in the world and could

provide him with a lot of information regarding various countries policies.

He said he wanted to know the Socialists' analyses on various world problems, such as the Middle East, the Iraqi imposed war on Iran, and that Villalon gave those reports to Qotbzadeh. He said those reports were obtained from the Socialists own sources in various countries governments for they had branches everywhere.

The judge then said all those people who were involved with Qotbzadeh have quoted him as saying that he had contact with the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

Qotbzadeh said the coup plotters insisted that nothing could be achieved without foreign help, and that he had responded by saying that all should be left to him. Qotbzadeh then said he had no way of proving his statements and he admitted to having made a mistake, and realized that.

Qotbzadeh said without the support of Saudi Arabia, Iraq could not resist Iran for even 24 hours.

Qotbzadeh then attributed Mahdavi's trip to Saudi Arabia to raise money for the coup, to a Mr Sheibani and said he had sponsored it.

Qotbzadeh then confessed to having committed a sin by not objecting to the coup plotters' plan to destroy the residence of Imam Khomeini and

said he had given the coup plotters a vague plan in that regard and said he had introduced two people, Shahveissi, and Foruzan to work in this connection.

Qotbzadeh said he had sent three people to meet with Shariatmadari to inform him of their plan, and Shariatmadari assured them of his full approval.

Qotbzadeh then said he had said previously that the defunct shah's son, and other counterrevolutionaries could return to Iran, provided they returned all the wealth they plundered from Iran, to the country lived like any ordinary person.

He admitted to having given some 3 million tomans to people involved in the coup.

Answering Reyshahri's question whether he was still of the opinion that the only solution for Iran's problems was a military coup, Qotbzadeh answered in the negative and said he had come to doubt his previous assumptions. He said he was infinitely sorry and ashamed for having chosen the attempted coup solution and that he regarded his earlier thoughts "undoubtedly wrong."

He said he hoped Allah would forgive him, and now believed that the nation's problems should be rectified by discussions, writings, and similar methods. In conclusion, Qotbzadeh stated that he considered himself absolutely guilty.

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC PARTY ON 'MOSCOW INSPIRED' ANALYSIS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 24 Aug 82 pp 1, 3

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) — The morning daily Jomhuri-e Eslami (Islamic Republic) Sunday printed an analysis of the Political Bureau of the Islamic Republic Party (IRP) concerning the position taken by the pro-Soviet Tudeh Party, and the pro Tudeh party faction of the Fedayeen Khalq Organization which is referred to as the Fedayeen Majority, on the Iraqi imposed war and ways of reaching a peace.

The IRP analysis is based on commentaries by the Tudeh Party and the Fedayeen Majority, in the recent issues of their publications. The Secretary General of the Tudeh Party, Nureddin Kianuri, commenting on the war and the retreat of the Iraqi forces from Iranian territory and a peace settlement referred to a recent report of the center for strategic studies of Georgetown University in Washington D.C., on the issue of Iraq-Iran war. The center has said that the war had brought Iraq closer to the conservative regimes of the Persian Gulf and the Iranian threat had created an alliance between Jordan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

The report had noted that military defeat for Iraq would make it abandon its rivalry with Saudi Arabia for the role of leadership of the moderate countries.

The Georgetown University report said the war would further isolate Syria and preserve the interests of the Zionist regime. The fall of Saddam would make Iraq unstable and endanger the economic interests of the Arabs and pave the way for expansion of relations between Iraq and the U.S. on the grounds that the Soviets would not be willing to sell arms to Iraq.

Based on this report, Kianuri had concluded that

the U.S. role was to make the Iranian forces push into Iraqi territory and engage Iran in a war of attrition, which in his words was a great danger for the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Meanwhile, the publication of the Majority Fedayeen in a recent issue said that U.S. imperialism was afraid of a just peace. The article referred to the heavy expenditure of the war, the human resources used and the difficulties created for the "toiling masses."

According to the Majority Fedayeen, increased dissatisfaction as a result of the war would encourage counterrevolutionary moves and weaken the pillars of the revolution. The commentary added that establishment of a just peace, would enable Iran to take part in repelling imperialist and Zionist aggression against the people of Palestine, Lebanon and Syria. The article suggested that all diplomatic means be used to repel the aggression and reach a just peace. The publication of the Fedayeen also stressed that only the people of Iraq had the right to decide on the system of their government and the Islamic Republic should by no means interfere in such issues.

The IRP analysis said that the identical view of the two pro-Soviet groups was in fact in accordance with the recent position of the Soviet government on the issue of the war. Pravda, the organ of the Soviet Communist Party, in an article printed nearly a month ago, said that taking the war into the Iraqi territory would involve more countries.

Referring to the financial and human cost of the war, the newspaper noted that since the outbreak of the war the Soviet Union had stressed that it should be terminated soon and that it's continuation served the interests of the U.S. imperialism and the Zionist regime and at the same time hurt the Palestinian cause.

The analysis said that the two groups, following the guidelines and policies of the Soviet Union, were trying to prevent Iranian forces from entering Iraq. This was because, the Soviet Union like the U.S. and the Western Bloc, has no effective substitute for the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. In addition, the Communist parties because of their ideological proximity with the Baathists, would not want a change in Iraq with no clear future for such a change, added the analysis. The point was raised that despite the claims of the Tudeh Party, the Soviet Union has not been

unwilling to sell arms to Iraq and the presence of Soviet MiGs and tanks in the Iraqi armed forces, showed the interest of the Soviets in protecting Saddam Hussein.

The analysis further pointed out that the victory of Iran over Iraq would lead to numerous positive consequences for the Islamic Republic and at the same time would result in an unpredictable situation for the Soviet Union in the region and within its own borders. Meanwhile, it asserted the greater danger in the Middle East for both Superpowers was that the Islamic Republic after removing Saddam Hussein would then confront the Zionist regime directly and turn the Middle East region into a battlefield against the Zionist regime and thus take away the initiative of action from the leaders of Kremlin and the White House.

The recommendations of the Tudeh Party and the Majority Fedayeen, concerning the utilization of diplomatic methods and mediators, proved nothing but the subservience of these groups to Moscow, the IRP analysis said. It concluded by stating that the Iranian nation based on its past experience, had only one answer to such plots, "vigorous struggle with the aggressor enemy who through the support of the East and the West has attacked our Islamic Revolution." The people of Iran, it added, would not relinquish its present military superiority, which was their only weapon in regaining their legitimate rights. It labelled the Moscow inspired suggestions nonsense because such a stance will not establish a "just peace," but an "imposed peace."

CSO: 4600/744

IRAN, SOVIET UNION RESOLVE MINOR BUT LONG-STANDING ISSUES

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 24 Aug 82 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Results of a visit of an Iranian delegation to the U.S.S.R. made on Aug. 9 to 14, were outlined by Karbasian, the undersecretary of the ministry of Roads and Transport here Sunday. He said, the delegation was to attend the permanent transportation sub-committee of Irano-Soviet Economic Cooperation Commission. The Commission was founded eleven years ago and annual sessions were being held alternatively in Iran and the Soviet Union.

During their visit to the U.S.S.R., Karbasian said the delegation had held certain negotiations with the Soviet officials regarding the current problems in transportation affairs with the Soviet Union, such as the issue of damages to goods on transit in Iran. He further added that the

issue of damages to transit commodities destined to Iran from the Soviet Union, had been reviewed and interim agreements reached.

He continued that the delegation had said to the Soviet officials that Iran was interested in shipping in the Caspian Sea, and that Iran could augment the volume of its exchanges with the U.S.S.R. provided that at least 50 percent of goods to be exchanged be shipped by Iranian vessels. The delegation had proposed the Soviet officials to organize a shipping organization in conjunction with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Soviet Union, he further announced.

Iranian and Soviet experts also agreed to hold sessions in Tehran and Moscow during the first three months of 1983 and therein make preparations for the plan.

CSO: 4600/744

KHAMENEI WARNS OF IRAQI MOVE TO ASSIST SEDITIONISTS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 24 Aug 82 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) - President Khamenei said Sunday that the Iraqi regime would send arms to counterrevolutionaries in Turkish and Kurdish populated regions of Iran to fight the Islamic Republic. He added that Iran's enemy would employ anyone who could serve its interests.

In a meeting with a group of officials of the city of Salmas, West Azarbajian province, the president stressed that these secessionists were neither Turks nor Kurds but rather seditionaries who had gathered in these areas to damage the Islamic Revolution.

Those whose interests had been endangered by the Islamic Republic had been seduced by foreign instigations and those who had not adhered to Islamic principles, had taken a hostile position against the revolution,

President Khamenei noted.

Emphasizing preservation of unity among all strata, the president said that the enemy was counting on West Azarbajian province for the implementation of its secessionist conspiracies but it should be disappointed. He added that the only element which defeated counterrevolutionaries and strengthened the Islamic Republic was cooperation of the people, either Kurd, Turk or Shia and Sunni.

The president reiterated that whoever embarked on sowing discord among Iranian Moslems would be considered a traitor to the Islamic revolution and republic.

He assured that the people and government of Iran would purge these regions from seditionists and agents of the great satan, the U.S.

CSO: 4600/744

BRIEFS

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES PURGED IN KORDESTAN--Sanandaj--During the last few days, the brave fighters of Islam, in organized operations, purged the villages of Kanisi, (Neshiyan), and (Qaliyan) in Sardasht, Gazneh and (Tazehabad) villages in (Saral) zone in Saqez-Divandarreh of the presence of counterrevolutionaries. In this operation, a truck and a fuel tanker belonging to the attached elements of the Komaleh were captured by the Islamic forces. [Text] [GFI12018 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 26 Aug 82 p 19]

'RUFFIANS' MARTYR 4 IN MAKU, SANANDAJ--Urumiyeh--Two of the Muslim Kurds of (Barim Qyyeh) village in Maku were martyred at the hands of armed ruffians led by Hasan Hasanzadeh. According to an IRNA report quoting a Khoy revolution guards news bulletin, another person from this village was martyred in the last few days of Mardad [month ending 31 August] at the hands of these armed ruffians in addition to the other two who were martyred for their faith in Islam and Koran. The same report states that one individual has been arrested in this connection and an investigation to find the other murderers continues. According to an IRNA report from Sanandaj, on the evening of 30 August, a Muslim and faithful citizen, Khalil Beheshtizad, was martyred in the outskirts of the city by the fire of the guns of one or a number of counterrevolutionary elements. The clean body of this martyr was buried in a funeral ceremony in Behesht-e Mohammadi Cemetery yesterday. The revolution guards of Kordestan, in a statement, severely denounced this dastardly act. [Text] [GFI141050 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Sep 82 p 13]

GUARDS' ACTIVITIES REPORTED--A spider den of the minigroup Feda'iyan-e Khalq--minority was discovered in Rasht on 28 August. A search of the house unearthed a considerable quantity of arms, ammunition and books or publications of the minigroup. On the same date nine members of U.S. minigroups who had realized the anti-Islamic nature of the groups surrendered to Baneh revolution guards with their arms and ammunition and received amnesty. In the past few days a number of the infidel members of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq--minority minigroups were recognized and arrested in Hamedan. [Excerpts] [GFI150439 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 2 Sep 82 p 19]

KHUZESTAN GROUP MEMBERS ARRESTED--The central news unit reports that the public relations office of the central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced the following: During the past week, the

forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Khuzestan succeeded in arresting members of the Mohareb [wager of war against God] and (?blasphemous) organization named Peykar Engelabi, who, recently, following intense confrontations inside the group, branched off from the revolutionary [as heard] Peykar group. They were arrested before they were able to take any steps against the Islamic revolution in their new organization. They were handed over to the judicial authorities. [Excerpt] [LD102052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Sep 82]

CLERGYMAN'S SONS KILLED--Mehdi Gilani, son of Mohammadi Gilani, the Shar' magistrate of the Khomeyni regime who was a member of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization [MKO], was killed in a recent clash with the guards. This was reported by the publications department of the MKO in Paris. According to our correspondent in Paris, 2 other sons of Mohammadi Gilani, Kazem and J'afar, had been killed earlier by the Khomeyni guards. Before that, a letter of the sons of Mohammadi Gilani to their father was broadcast by the Free Voice of Iran. In this letter, the sons of Mohammadi Gilani had emphatically admitted the crimes of their father. [Text] [GF101815 Free Voice of Iran (Clandestine) in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 10 Sep 82]

KORDESTAN FIGHTING--According to our correspondent in London, on the basis of reports reaching Kurdish circles opposing Khomeyni's regime and living in London, the Kurdish fighters defeated the attacks of the regime's guards in Piranshahr, Sardasht, Saqqez and Baneh. A Kurdish spokesman announced: There were dozens of dead or wounded guards in the clashes. Our fighters captured a group of the mercenaries, among which several Jash [as heard] could be seen. He noted: When the brave Kurdish fighters gain any success, the propaganda machinery of Khomeyni's regime and some radios in the Middle East which support the antinationalist regime of Khomeyni to the detriment of the Iranian nation, claim that the revolution guards have won the battles. This is at the same time that many Kurdish regions are under the control of Kurdish fighters and the guards do not dare leave large cities in Kordestan. Our correspondent adds: The autumn attacks of the Kurdish fighters against the revolution guards' units are expected to begin in the next few days. [Text] [GF130820 Free Voice of Iran (Clandestine) in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 12 Sep 82]

MKO, GUARDS CLASHES--According to a report by our correspondent quoting JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, three members of Mojahedin-e Khalq [MKO], including one of the organization's military commanders, were killed in a bloody clash in Shiraz. JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, which is the official publication of a fascist party of the same name, did not report the number of guards killed. The same paper reported the death of an MKO military leader in Sabzevar without citing the casualties suffered by the guards of the regime. In the two clashes a total of 12 members of the mercenary guards were annihilated. [Text] [GF130814 Free Voice of Iran (Clandestine) in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 12 Sep 82]

SALIMI POWER PLANT--Sari, Aug 27, IRNA--The Martyr Salimi power plant in Neka (25 km from Suri, the capital of Mazandaran Province) is due to begin full operation near the end of this Persian year 1361 (ending March 20th, 1983). It is 99 percent complete and could make up for more than a fourth of the country's electricity needs. Energy Minister Ghafuri-Fard said in an interview with IRNA here that the power plant was one of the largest in the Middle East and was producing at 35 to 40 percent capacity at the present time and was only facing minor problems in reaching full production. He said that two units of the plant were now producing and one other unit had an insignificant malfunction and the fourth unit, he said, also needed some work. The minister added that all basic work had been completed and the only major issue concerning the plant was its fuel. The plant burns natural gas but since it was not available at present it was burning mazut for the time being. [Excerpt] [LD280218 Tehran IRNA in English 1908 GMT 28 Aug 82]

MUSAVI RECEIVES IRANIAN AMBASSADORS--Tehran, Sept 10, IRNA--Iranian ambassadors and chargé d'affaires to West European and North American countries met and conferred Thursday with Prime Minister Musavi. In this meeting, the head of the political department of the European-American countries of the Foreign Ministry gave a report on the said envoy's activities. The prime minister urged them to follow the genuine line of the Islamic Revolution and take into consideration cultural and economic issues, in addition to political matters. [Text] [GF101702 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 10 Sep 82]

CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH INDIA--Tehran, Sept 10, IRNA--Problems of the Iranian students in India and those related to the Indian physicians working in Iran, were discussed in a meeting between the Indian ambassador to Tehran, Akbar Mirza Khaleehi, and the Foreign Affairs Ministry deputy for cultural and consular affairs, Javad Mansuri Thursday morning. The two officials also discussed participation of the Iranian athletes in the Asian games, scheduled to open in New Delhi this month. They also talked about the expansion of cultural ties between the two countries and ways of sending more Iranian students to India for higher education. [Text] [GF101650 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 10 Sep 82]

MUSAVI GREETED BULGARIAN CHAIRMAN--Tehran, Sept 10, IRNA--Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi yesterday, in a message to the chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria, Grisha Filipov, congratulated him on the National Day of that country, September 10th. Prime Minister Musavi wished for expansion of mutual relations of both countries in his message. The National Day in Bulgaria was the 38th anniversary of the expulsion of Nazi forces from Bulgaria. [Text] [GF102000 Tehran IRNA in English 1715 GMT 10 Sep 82]

MUSAVI GREETED DPRK COUNTERPART--Tehran, Sept 10, IRNA--Prime Minister Musavi Thursday sent a message of congratulations to the prime minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Yi Chung-ok, on the occasion of the 34th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Democratic Republic in Korea. In this message, Musavi hoped for the improvement of

relations between the two countries for strengthening of anti-imperialist struggles throughout the world. [Text] [GF101659 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 10 Sep 82]

MONTAZERI ON UNIVERSITY REOPENINGS--Qom, Sept 11, IRNA--Prominent religious scholar, Ayatollah Montazeri, addressing members of the Cultural Revolution Headquarters here, said that universities should be reopened as soon as possible. He also said that their functions should be based on Islamic principles. Addressing visiting members, the ayatollah stated that since total reform of universities' curriculum was presently impossible, therefore, it was necessary to implement gradual reforms, thus facilitating a speedier reopening of the universities. He also said efforts should be undertaken to involve and hire committed followers of the revolution both inside and outside the country, in order to have more productive and beneficial universities in future. [Text] [GF111655 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 11 Sep 82]

BANK HEAD RETURNS FROM FRG--Tehran, Sept 11, IRNA--The governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI), Dr. Mohsen Nurbakhsh, returned this morning from a trip to the Federal Republic of Germany where he attended the general assembly of the Krupp Company. In the recent assembly, the fiscal report of the Krupp board of directors was reviewed and the future programmes of the said company were discussed with the CBI governor, Dr. Nurbakhsh. [Text] [GF111721 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 11 Sep 82]

CSO: 4640/474

LEVI REPORTED PREPARING TO SUCCEED BEGIN

TA031153 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 3 Sep 82 p 4

[Commentary by Sha'ul Schiff: "The Tension Between Opposition and Coalition Will Increase"]

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi was the first minister to react sharply this week to the message by the U.S. President in which he suggested, among other things, stopping the settlements in Judaea and Samaria. However, this is not the first time that Minister David Levi has been asked about political issues and to react to them even before the prime minister or the foreign minister publicly expressed their opinion. Levi this time put more emphasis on his position as deputy prime minister rather than his position as housing minister.

It is said in Herut movement circles that David Levi is preparing himself for the possibility that Prime Minister Begin will indeed retire in about 2 years from his post as prime minister, and will entrust it to one of the senior Herut ministers. Minister Levi, who knows French very well, has begun to study and improve his English. This is viewed in Herut as more than a hint that he indeed intends to challenge the premiership position in due course.

It is believed in Herut that if the president of the state, Yitzhaq Navon, submits to pressure from extensive circles in the Labor Party not to present his candidacy for another term as president (May 1982), and to run for the chairmanship of the Labor Party and as its candidate for the prime minister's office on behalf of this party, Minister David Levi will not have to work hard to achieve the appointment for the premiership.

On the other hand, if President Navon decides not to enter political activity, the internal struggle within the Herut movement over the candidacy for premier will increase.

Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, Foreign Minister Shamir and Finance Minister Aridor are among the contestants for this position.

Herut members do not reject the possibility that Israel's Ambassador to the United States Moshe Arens will be a compromise candidate in order to prevent a painful internal confrontation.

CSO: 4400/470

PRESS SAID DEPICTING ONLY POSITIVE WAR SCENES

Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 30 Jul-5 Aug 82 p 13

[Article by Israel Shahak]

[Text] It is difficult for foreigners to imagine how, under conditions of democracy which allow protests to be made even during a war, the great majority of the Israeli Jews still support the invasion. No doubt there are many reasons for this. I want to point out only one of them, which seems to me a very important one:

Contrary to the 'image' that a modern war bears in the Western media, with the pictures of dead, wounded in pain, civilian casualties, children and babies, war in Israel has a sterile and even a happy image. It is a fact that until July 7, 1982 no single picture of a Lebanese or Palestinian casualty in bad condition was published in any Israeli paper or shown on TV. The single exception — and the first time, to my knowledge, that this was done in Israel — is a picture of a wounded and bandaged Lebanese child in *Haolam Hazeh* on July 7, reproduced from the *Sunday Times* and published as something that "foreigners see," and not even taken directly from Lebanon.

As crazy as it no doubt seems to many, it is a fact that while very extreme protests and demonstrations are allowed, a single picture of a wounded Lebanese or Palestinian is not allowed.

However, the same principle applied to the Israeli soldiers themselves has an even greater psychological effect on the Israeli public. No picture of a

dead body of an Israeli soldier can be shown in Israel under any circumstances. The same "principle" is applied to Israeli wounded soldiers: They can be shown, under happy conditions, smiling in hospital, kissing pretty nurses or receiving gifts, or being invited to a restaurant. In most such pictures they look as if being wounded was the happiest occasion of their lives! Honestly, this 'pornography of war,' is one of the most obscene things imaginable, but it is influential, especially for such groups that have no idea of what military service is.

The same 'principle' is extended further and further: Israeli soldiers in Lebanon are never shown as tired, or bored, or even apathetic, but the press and TV are full of pictures of happy soldiers swimming, boating, lying on a beach, playing chess near a tank, and "enjoying a happy day in Beirut" as a caption on one of those obscenities (published by *Maariv*) reads.

By now this has become so accepted that the bulk of the population has no idea that this censorship exists, and is therefore the more influenced. The regular 'war against the foreign press' that is waged by the Israeli authorities arises from their wish to extend this principle of brainwashing to the whole world, with the consequences which can surely be imagined.

VILLAGE LEAGUERS HARRASS WEST BANK RESIDENTS

Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 30 Jul-5 Aug 82 p 14

[Text]

Village Leaguers in Sa'ir, a village north of Hebron, attempted police action against Sa'ir residents; July 25, a day before (Menahem) Milson was scheduled to visit the village. Leaguers stopped the village bus carrying 100 labourers and ordered them to raise their hands over their heads after taking IDs.

Villagers attacked the armed Leaguers, however, wounding the head of the (local) Village League and his secretary. Residents chased them to their homes and set two Leaguers houses and a private car on fire.

Large reinforcements of soldiers and League mercenaries from Hebron and Bethlehem were called in and opened fire in the air and arrested scores of residents after arriving at Sa'ir. Musa Ali Jaradat was badly beaten up by Sa'ir Leaguers and a police officer.

Eyewitnesses described the incident as "a real war." They added that an Israeli officer loaded a gun and gave it to a Village Leaguer's wife.

The Village Leaguers in Sa'ir who clashed with residents were all said to be members of a 'committee for running the Village's affairs.' They acted in the village as a village council, some say.

(In related development,) Village Leaguers harassed residents of Kharbtha Bani Hareth, Ras Karkar, Kufr Na'meh, Beit Sira (and Safa) in the Ramallah district last week. They beat residents, stopped labourers and confiscated identity cards.
(Translation: Al Tali'a)

Dhahiriyyeh, a village 15 km south of Hebron, has been under curfews since July 20. The Israeli military authorities erected checkpoints at the village entrances and stopped the traffic on the Hebron-Beer Sheba road, which passes through the village centre. Five young men from the village were arrested. The Israeli soldiers also stopped a bus full of labourers trying to leave the village, July 25, and after beating them, forced them back home.

Reports from residents of the village said that Dhahiriyyeh has been subjected to harassment because residents of the village stoned Israeli military vehicles, July 20. The Israeli military vehicles were hit after news of the martyrdom in Lebanon of four residents reached the village.

On July 21, the day of the Id al-Fitr, the Israeli authorities attempted to impose a curfew stopping residents from

getting to the mosque. In the demonstration which followed, they shouted slogans supporting the PLO, and attacked a Village Leaguer. Israeli soldiers dispersed the demonstration by opening fire.

The village, after a week of siege, suffered from the lack of food and medicine as the Israeli soldiers closed the only pharmacy in the village. (Translation: Al Tali'a)

CSO: 4400/460

IDF FIGHTING ON ROAD TO BEIRUT DESCRIBED

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST MAGAZINE in English 20 Aug 82 pp 8-9

[Article by Charles Hoffman]

[Text] THE ARMOURED brigade had been the first to roll into Lebanon on Sunday morning, and their orders were to push ahead as fast and as far as possible on the coastal road. They had expected much more resistance from the terrorists hiding in the fields, groves and houses along the way.

The Merkava tanks and mechanized infantry of the brigade, including Rav-Seren Gilad's unit were ordered not to plunge into the terrorist strongholds of Tyre, Sidon and the refugee camps, but to get around them somehow and keep pushing northward. South and north of Tyre they got their first taste of battle in scrapes with terrorist ambushes, which cost them several dead and wounded but failed to hold them back.

By Wednesday afternoon they reached Damour, and provided supporting fire from the west for the paratroops, who had the messy task of cleaning out that terrorist den house by house, street by street. When Damour had been largely secured, Gilad's unit was ordered to advance again, this time up to the ridges overlooking Beirut International Airport from the south.

Speeding along at about five in the afternoon with the sea breeze whipping at them, they had no time to scout out the ground ahead or to call in artillery support from the rear.

About four kilometres south of the airport, at Khalde, also known as Kafr Sil, the battalion turned off

the four-lane highway that leads into Beirut. They continued northward closer to the beach on the old road that passes through several kilometres of hotels and resort facilities, and leads up to the casino and amusement park just south of the airport.

When over half the column of tanks and armoured troop-carriers were well along the narrow road, with their turn-off to the east just ahead, shells, missiles and machine-gun fire came crashing down on them from all sides.

Several hundred terrorists and Syrian commandos hiding in the windows and doorways of the buildings and in the alleyways in between stepped up the intense barrage of rocket-propelled grenades, Sagger anti-tank missiles and recoilless-rifle shells. The tanks and the troop-carriers caught in the crossfire were slammed again and again by shells or rocked by explosions, and tried to fire back at their elusive attackers.

The commander, riding with the leading vehicles and caught in the thick of it, saw that there were only two ways out of this death trap: either to go right on and risk having the entire column cut up, or to pull out. Meanwhile, two tanks had been disabled, and the cries of the injured were jamming the unit's radio network. The order was given to withdraw.

For the soldiers who had breezed up the coastal road for four days without any major resistance,

and who thought by then that the rest would be a snap too, the carefully planned ambush with its massive fire came as a terrible shock.

The order to pull out also threw them off balance. Some tank crew members froze and couldn't function, and their vehicles blocked the others until other crew members took control. Some turned their tanks around as they had been taught, while others simply backed. The withdrawal of the leading part of the column was blocked by the two disabled tanks, one a Merkava that was smoking from a direct hit, and the other a Patton fitted with a bulldozer blade, which had started to burn.

FURTHER BACK, in the part of the column not pinned down in the crossfire, Seren Avi heard the reports of injured on the radio. His peacetime job in the unit was to make sure that its base was properly administered and maintained. Now he was responsible for organizing the unit's medical teams and supervising the troop-carriers sent to evacuate the wounded.

He tried to instruct one of his forward carriers to extricate the wounded near the two crippled tanks, but couldn't make radio contact. Not wanting to waste any more time, he went ahead himself, along with his driver and a doctor.

Avi's troop-carrier raced into the enemy-infested stretch of road with machine-gun bullets and RPGs whizzing all around. Now that the rear section of the trapped column had pulled out, he and his crew were alone in the death trap. The leading part of the column was still on the other side of the two disabled tanks. The ammunition for the machine-guns mounted on his vehicle ran out, and there was nothing he could do but order his driver to step on it.

When he reached the two tanks, Avi saw two wounded men lying about two metres from the now exploding Patton. He was about 20 metres away from them. He and the doctor could either get out and run to the wounded, under fire or they could try to maneuver their vehicle closer, which would mean risking a

hit from the exploding tank. They decided to go in with the troop-carrier, got the two out, and took off to the rear.

After riding for about a kilometre, the doctor decided that the wounded men could not be treated properly inside the troop-carrier. They would have to stop and get out, still within range of enemy fire. By this time, the jam up ahead had been broken and the vehicles caught in the forward part of the column were starting to pour through, bringing more wounded to be attended to.

With Katyushas now falling nearby showering the area with shrapnel, Avi tried to flag down the tanks barreling to the rear, both to provide protecting fire for his impromptu first aid station and to take back some of the wounded. But none of them stopped. The tank crews, now seized by an overpowering urge to get out of the death trap as fast as possible, ignored Avi's signals. In their rush to retreat, the tanks kept aiming shells and machine-gun fire in all directions, long after they were clear of the danger zone.

Eventually, the tank of the deputy brigade commander, Sgan-Aluf Yehiam, stopped to help, along with an infantry detachment in a troop-carrier that was much more vulnerable to enemy fire than the Merkava.

ONE OF THE two men Avi had found next to the exploding tank was now dead. Seren Z.K. was not even a regular member of the unit or one of its reservists: he was a *trampist*, a volunteer who had cast his lot with the battalion and had met his death trying to save one of the crew of the burning Patton.

In every war volunteers appear at the front: the ex-company commander transferred a few months before the fighting; the high-ranking officer with a desk job; and others like them with no designated combat role who don't want to feel left out.

Z.K. didn't exactly come from behind a desk. He was a reservist in an élite unit. During the first 24 hours of fighting, he and some others of his unit had been landed on the coast.

When they had completed their mission and were about to withdraw Z.K. decided on the spur of the moment that he wanted "to stay with these youngsters." He was assigned to a troop-carrier used to evacuate the wounded, and was riding near the head of the column that was caught in the ambush.

When the Patton was hit, Z.K. rushed to the aid of its crew and managed to pull one of the wounded men out before the tank started to explode. He put him down on the road, tried to protect him from the withering fire still sweeping the area, and was hit by a machine-gun bullet. Z.K. died shortly after Avi's team evacuated him, but the man he had saved, even though badly burned, survived.

By the time he finally extricated his vehicle, loaded with 14 wounded, Avi too was somewhat rattled. He drove like mad for the rear, and kept going until stopped by the brigade commander himself. Quickly regaining his composure, he began organizing a treatment station for the wounded. The medical teams of another battalion had joined them, and there would be no shortage of doctors or supplies.

AT THE FRONT of the column, watching the last tanks and troop-carriers rush back to the rear, was Roni, a member of the crew of the Merkava that had been hit.

When the rocket exploded in the front of their tank, Roni and the

three other crewmen jumped out without even taking their weapons. They climbed on board Z.K.'s troop-carrier, which took a direct hit a few minutes later. Before it exploded, Roni, his gunner and three others on the carrier jumped out and ran for cover behind a car on the west side on the road, in the direction of the beach.

They tried unsuccessfully to extricate the commander of Roni's tank from the burning troop-carrier, where he was trapped along with two infantrymen. The gunner ran to safety, which left Roni at the side of the road with three other soldiers, one of them badly wounded. The terrorists and the Syrians in the buildings above them and across the street raked them with fire, killing the wounded man. Roni ran to the beach and hid among the rocks.

Avi was trying to get things under control in the rear when a call came through to take out more wounded. Avi asked for volunteers, but the 10-minute passage through hell had numbed his men. So Avi decided he would go by himself. He asked a driver to go with him, but the man said he too could not help.

He stalked off, found another driver, and went with a doctor for a three-kilometre ride back into the inferno. They reached the forward position held by the unit commander Gilad and another tank, took on some of the last wounded and left.

FIFTEEN minutes from the time the buildings along the road first disgorged their torrents of fire, the last tanks of the battalion pulled back. Although many vehicles had been hit, only three were completely disabled: the Merkava, the Patton and the troop-carrier with three bodies aboard. They were left in the area under enemy control until the next day when, after many hours of intense fighting, the stretch of road was finally taken by infantry.

Overnight, however, the terrorists hauled off the troop-carried with the three bodies, leaving the Patton and the Merkava. The latter would have been quite a prize for the PLO. No attempt was made to prevent its falling into enemy hands, and for a simple reason: this would have meant certain casualties among men called on to approach the tank, affix a cable and tow it away at a snail's pace.

The shock of retreat after nearly four days of rapid advance, the look on his men's faces as they came out of the inferno and huddled around him in the rear, the comrades left behind--these apparently took their tool on the

brigade commander himself, Aluf-Mishne Eli Geva. Officers who watched him closely in the following days of the fighting said that he wasn't the same man.

WHEN THE LAST tank pulled back, one soldier was still left in the area, alone and frightened. Roni stayed hidden among the rocks down by the sea till after nightfall. There were terrorists all over the beach, but they didn't spot him while he crouched there, waiting in vain for his unit to return. After two hours he decided that there was only one way out: by sea.

Roni comes from Beersheba, and by his own testimony is not much of a swimmer. Nevertheless, he removed his boots, slipped noiselessly into the water and headed south. Swimming several hundred metres out where he wouldn't be seen, he couldn't make out what was on the beaches he passed. So two or three times he came in closer to get a better look, but went on when he found no one there.

DRESSED IN his flame-resistant uniform but suffering from shrapnel wounds and burns, Roni fought against the current hour after hour. His ordeal was eased only by the fact that the sea was warm and calm. Once, desperate for a rest, he

tried to climb aboard a small boat tied up near the beach. He glimpsed a sleeping figure in the boat, and slipped back into the water. Aching with pain and exhaustion, he resisted the temptation to lie down and rest on a quiet beach, fearing that he would fall asleep and be discovered by the terrorists.

Determined to stay alive, he kept himself going by thinking about how his family would feel if he were to die.

Pressing on, he noticed a spotlight on the beach. He came closer, heard Hebrew voices crackling over the radio, and saw some Merkava tanks. Coming out of the water carefully to avoid being mistaken for a terrorist, Roni spotted his deputy company commander and identified himself. It was about 2 a.m. and he was back with his unit, almost four kilometres down the coast from where he started.

He rejoined his unit while it was being subjected to an artillery shower that lasted most of the night. After the first few minutes of shelling, the soldiers got used to it, then ignored it and went to sleep. They had seen worse. □

CSO: 4400/460

ABBA EBAN WRITES ON MORAL DILEMMA OF BEIRUT

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Aug 82 p 6

[Article by Abba Eban]

[Text] PRIME MINISTER Begin's letter to President Reagan in which he portrays himself as marching to "Berlin" to liquidate "Hitler" is one of the most bizarre documents in recent diplomatic history. Its general consequence is to degrade the memory of the Holocaust and to diminish its historic resonance.

Instead of allowing the Holocaust to tower in unique and terrible isolation above every other event in the history of inhumanity, Mr. Begin keeps comparing it with so many other episodes that it loses its particularity.

He began with a comparison in the Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee between the victims of the Jewish Holocaust and a group of Christians in North Lebanon. At that moment the Holocaust became comparable to hundreds of other events, since the plight of the Christians, however unhappy, would not figure among the hundred most fearful tragedies in the history of conflict. Now, in a dark and macabre fantasy, Mr. Begin imagines himself as the executioner of "Hitler" in a "bunker deep beneath the surface" in "Berlin."

The notion of "Hitler" is composed of two elements: unfathomable malice and immense power. Without the power, the malice remains morbid, but it loses the kind of gravity that would give rationality to the historic analogy. Hitler was uniquely malicious and mighty, while Arafat is malicious, though not uniquely so, and ridiculously impotent.

Arafat has no capacity to reach Israel with his violence, and the Palestinians for whom he professes to fight are under Israel's domination. Arafat's ideology and rhetoric, repulsive as they are, are identical with those of Anwar Sadat until a few months before Begin embraced him in the Knesset.

Far more Israelis have lost their lives at the hands of Sadat's and King Hussein's and Assad's armies than through the wicked assaults of Arafat's gunmen. As Ze'ev Mankowitz points out ("Beirut is not Berlin," *The Jerusalem Post*, August 4): "Begin has lost touch with reality and is pursuing phantoms born in the greatest tragedy that ever befell our people."

If the Holocaust is like everything in general, it is like nothing in particular. That is the extent of Mr. Begin's violation of the most significant metaphor in the moral history of the Jewish people and of mankind.

There is no difference between Arafat's rhetoric and that of Assad, Nasser, Sadat (until 1977), contemporary Egyptian leaders, Saudi rulers and, above all, Khomeini (whom Begin supplies with arms). The difference is that the others whom I have mentioned have always had greater power than Arafat to put their rhetoric into effect.

That an Israeli prime minister can seriously think of a defeated Arafat as Israel's major problem on behalf of which every other Israeli concern is left in abeyance shows a total lack

of proportion and veracity. As Voltaire said: "When we exaggerate our enemy's power, we play into his hands and do his work." With every day that passes, it becomes evident that the word "*plonter*" is a gross understatement of the trauma that the Beirut war will leave behind.

I HAVE used the term "the Beirut war," because it is not the same as the Galilee war. Mr. Begin solemnly promised the Knesset on June 8 that when we reach the 40 km. limit, "the fighting will cease." On June 13, Defence Minister Ariel Sharon declared: "Our mission is completed." He went on to list the goals that had been attained and to praise our commanders and troops for their valour and success. At that point, it would have been logical — and feasible — to ask Philip Habib to arrange a cease-fire and to bring about the introduction of the multi-national force that would enable Israeli forces to leave Lebanon.

There was nothing in Mr. Begin's speech of June 8 or in Mr. Sharon's remarks on June 13 to support the idea that "Israeli sacrifices would have been in vain" unless our armies pushed on to Beirut. Such targets as Beirut, the "destruction of the PLO infrastructure" and the establishment of a viable Lebanese government were not even on their lips.

Galilee had been removed from the range of PLO weaponry; the Syrian missiles in the Bekaa valley had been destroyed; nearly a hundred Syrian aircraft had been shot down; what Mr. Sharon called "a mortal blow" had been inflicted on the PLO; and the IDF's performance, together with these tangible achievements, had greatly augmented Israel's deterrent capacity, which is the main element of our long-term security. Moreover, these objectives had been attained in an atmosphere of domestic consensus and international understanding.

Nobody who listened to those summaries of achievement could have predicted that within seven weeks the war would be in full swing; hundreds more Israelis would be killed or maimed; thousands of civilians in Lebanon, including Beirut, would have lost their lives; a moral torment would

have seized many Israelis in and out of the army; a series of bombardments of civilians would have transformed Israel's reflection in the consciousness of this generation; the Egyptian peace treaty would be in question; world opinion would have been lost; and the United States, without whom the military victory cannot be translated into political gain, would be so sharply alienated.

Since mid-June, when the opportunity to end the operation was tragically squandered, the war has gone on in pursuit of objectives that remain elusive to this day. For the grievous truth is that the war in Beirut, with all its sacrifices and complications, has not brought Israel a single gain that was not in our hands when the first phase was ended in mid-June.

THE DECLARATIONS of Mr. Begin and Mr. Sharon on June 8 and June 13 are significant as guides to understanding what the national interests are. Both leaders were able to define the purposes and achievements of the war in statements that made no reference whatever to the idea of conquering any part of Beirut; liquidating the PLO "infrastructure"; moving them from Beirut to Damascus; or establishing "a stable government in Lebanon." This totally disproves the theory that these objectives, desirable as they are, can be described as crucial national interests worthy of promotion at the expense of human life.

They are, in fact, afterthoughts produced out of Mr. Begin's and Mr. Sharon's imaginations after a war without them had been correctly diagnosed as a success. It is not the case that the Beirut war has injured Israel's image while serving Israel's interest. Both our interest and our image have been damaged in equal and massive degree.

Some of my colleagues have suggested that even if it was wrong to make a life-or-death issue out of the marginal effects of moving the terrorist remnants from Beirut to Syria, our national prestige is so acutely involved that we dare not now finish the war without this victory for prestige and credibility. This counsel should be sharply rejected.

No government has a right to sacrifice a single Israeli life for a leader's prestige. Israeli forces should stay in place without raining death and havoc on the Lebanese people, while Philip Habib tries to achieve the evacuation by diplomatic means. There are no other means.

Sometimes a cure is more lethal than the disease that it purports to cure. The presence of terrorists in Beirut is a negative notion, but the idea of a war to remove them is more negative by far. In mid-June, Begin and Sharon were perfectly willing to end hostilities without reference to the PLO positions in Beirut.

FAR FROM curing previous traumas, this war is already on the way to become the most traumatic of all the Israeli experiences. Israel is now reflected in the imagination of many peoples, including the Israeli people, in images and forms quite different from the symbols of the past. The emaciated children waiting at empty water-buckets, waiting for typhoid to strike them down, is the reality behind the words "tightening the siege."

It is grotesque to hear a single voice in a Labour movement ad-

vocating "the tightening of the siege." The shattered bodies in the Beirut hospitals, the buildings fallen on scores of mangled civilian corpses, the piled up garbage breeding rats, the children with amputated limbs, above all, the Israeli soldiers on their endless stretchers and funeral beds — all this continued last week between one Begin speech and another with no consultation in the cabinet or the Knesset. And there is a new vocabulary with special verbs: "to pound," "to crush," "to liquidate," "to eradicate" all "to the last man," "to cleanse," "to fumigate," "to solve by other means," "not to put up with," "to mean business," "to wipe out." It is hard to say what the effects of this lexicon will be as it resounds in an endless and squalid rhythm from one day to the next. Not one word of humility, compassion or restraint has come from the Israeli government in many weeks: nothing but the rhetoric of self-assertion, the hubris that the Greeks saw as the gravest danger to a man's fate.

These six weeks have been a dark age in the moral history of the Jewish people. Somewhere, beyond the darkness, there may be a brighter and a gentler light.

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'HA'ARETZ' COMMENTARY ON REAGAN'S IDEAS

TA031820 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Sep 82 p 13

[Commentary by A. Schweitzer: "Reagan's Jordanian Option"]

[Excerpt] The Israeli Government's first line of defense is the Camp David agreement which, according to its interpretation, has been contradicted by the President's speech. But this is a line that has been broken: If Israel can determine in public declarations by heads of the state and also in official documents such as the government platform that it will demand sovereignty over Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, then the U.S. President can also express his own view about the future of these lands. And it was quite rightly that Israeli Ambassador to the United States Moshe Arens said, in reply to a question by a television correspondent, that there is room for an argument between the two countries as to whether the Camp David agreement has really been violated, a sincere argument which has its place.

As for the settlements that President Reagan wants to stop, they are not mentioned in the Camp David agreement. Anyone who initiates and carries them out is not violating the agreement; and, at the same time, whoever wants to stop them is not violating it. In any case recalling Camp David in connection with the President's speech is not to the point and Israel will not be doing itself any good by its attempts to prove to the world that not only Egypt, but the other signatory, the United States, is also moving away from it.

The substantive question that must occupy the government is whether any Arab sponsors will be found for the President's initiative. This applies with even more emphasis in view of the fact that President Reagan buried the Rogers plan in his speech. No more insignificant border amendments, but a presidential declaration that it must not be demanded of Israel that they return to the narrow 1967 borders. Furthermore, what is missing from the presidential plan is any demand [derisha] whatsoever for a disbanding of the settlements that were established beyond the Green Line. The question then is whether King Husayn will agree to it and whether a cancellation of the Rabat conference decision of 1974 recognizing the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinians--this was not even referred to by the President in his speech--will get any support from those attending the Fes conference.

And it is true that, for the moment, the absence of an Arab agreement to the President's proposals and the certain opposition of the PLO to everything said in them is the outstanding weak point of the U.S. move. This weakness, if it is not corrected speedily, will make it easier for the government of Israel to reasonably oppose the Reagan speech in general without seemingly going mad. According to the report in yesterday's Israeli media, political sources are assuming that there really was U.S. prior consultation with King Husayn. Time will tell if this is true. If so, and if Jordan really does win the blessing of the Fes conference, the government of Israel will have a problem, because then Washington will be able to concentrate all its strength on forcing Israel to take the U.S. plan seriously or bear the consequences.

On the assumption that the plans will soon be proven realistic or otherwise, that there will indeed be operative Arab agreement to the U.S. President's plan, the Begin government will stand alone at a time when it is embarking on a struggle for its own view of the solution to the Palestinian problem. This is because the Labor Party, absolutely rightly from its viewpoint, regards the President's proposals as agreeing--coming, it is true, regrettably late--with its own views. Reagan's speech means the adoption of the Jordanian option, which stood at the center of the Labor Party's political platform, by the United States and a public declaration of support for it, is not by some aide to the secretary of state testifying to this or that congressional committee, but by the President in a speech to the nation and it means that the scornful smile on Mr Begin's face should be wiped off whenever he mentions the Jordanian option.

The Jordanian option has always been the best, most helpful path when we get down to it and the most fair from the aspect of the morality according to which nations coexist beside each other. It is the best solution to the conflict on Israel's eastern border. The option's weakness lays in the absence, apart from the Labor Party, of supporters with a status and power whose words are listened to even in Israel. President Reagan has, in his speech at dawn on Thursday, given this option international status and a power to influence it has not had up to now. Now what is necessary is for the President to also be joined by Arab statesmen who understand that the "everything is mine" and the "only thus" that characterized the PLO thinking only lends support to Mr Begin and his partners and if this is how it will be, the chance will also be created that the mandate for the settlement of the problem of the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, given to Mr Begin in 1977, Gush Emunim and those who have confidence in them will be handed over to others.

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'HA'ARETZ' COMMENTARY ON REACTION TO REAGAN

TA051659 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Sep 82 p 7

[Commentary by Yo'el Marcus: "Shattered Illusions"]

[Text] I am not sure Mr Begin picked out the proper definition when he said "I was offended" upon getting word of the plan, or to be more precise, of President Reagan's framework of intentions. He would have described his situation better had he said: "I have misled myself and the citizens of Israel." After all, the assumption that the Reagan plan also includes some positive points insofar as Israel is concerned is irrelevant to the fact that as far as Begin is concerned, his U.S. world has been crushed. From his standpoint, Mr Begin is facing the total collapse of his U.S. policy. He erred in assessing President Reagan's concept, he was not prepared to lend an ear to reports that have flowed in for some time now on the broth that was brewing in Washington, and did not comprehend the significance of the slip in sympathy for Israel primarily due to the brutality of the Israeli offensive in Lebanon.

Mr Begin entertained an intuitive thesis from which he has not budged ever since becoming prime minister; namely, that Israel is a great U.S. asset, and hence it follows naturally that it is also its ally. (Incidentally, as head of the opposition, Begin had a fixed idea with regard to France as well, and for a long period of time he demanded an "alliance" with France precisely at the time that the Israeli Government was largely skeptical in regard to the permanency of the relations.) Begin often went overboard in praising the Americans, causing many to find difficulty in comprehending whether his bear hug was a tactical play of naivete aimed at making it difficult for the United States to free itself of it (just as he is now doing vis-a-vis Bashir al-Jumayyil), or whether he truly believed the two countries shared common objectives.

When describing Carter as "the greatest man I have known since Jabotinsky," Begin may have used a strategem, but upon the election of Reagan and the appointment of Haig, Begin honestly believed that Herut had reached the rule at the White House. Encouraged by a number of Reagan statements ("the settlements are not illegal") and in view of the overestimation of Haig's status, the prime minister reached the conclusion that he enjoyed a U.S. "carte blanche" to do all he wished to serve Reagan's anti-Soviet policy.

Begin's conviction was so firm that he even used to reprimand our embassy in the United States whenever it sent pessimistic reports. Mr Begin built castles in Spain--the agreement on strategic cooperation was only one such example--and the fabric of the relations he presented to the public always brought forth nothing but derisive smirks by official Americans.

Only a blind person would have failed to see that ever since President Carter declared that the Palestinians have a right to their own homeland, the circle of people expanded in the U.S. political establishment who believed that the Palestinians' aspirations should be granted by setting up a "homeland" which would be something less than a country, but which would be a precondition for maintaining U.S. interests in the Arab world. In offering the "full" autonomy proposal, Begin marched toward the United States far more than it had expected. In Camp David Begin added to the unexpected in advancing quite substantially toward the U.S. line: he recognized the Palestinian people's right to exist, something which the Alignment governments stubbornly refused to admit; and he recognized the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and their status as partner to determining their future. By so doing, he also established a precedent that settlements can be removed. The autonomy was meant to provide a period of 5 years of quiet before the great argument on its final status. It is true that Camp David did not stipulate whether Israel would have the right to demand sovereignty over the West Bank, but neither was it stated that they would be prohibited from doing that, or that the United States would not have the right to express its opinion on the matter. The entire "big deal" of the 5 years was aimed at not establishing facts during this period of 5 years that would affect the status of the West Bank.

My opinion is that at Camp David Begin established the Palestinians' state. It is true that he thought that by playing with words and spreading catch words in various contexts before the "preamble" or after it, and by other kinds of verbal follies he could make a fool of everyone and leave the West Bank in his hands in return for the full withdrawal from the Sinai. He very quickly realized his error, and upon the neutralization of Dayan he immediately began taking action toward emptying the Camp David accords of their content. Begin was the greater violator of the spirit of Camp David. Under the cover of wise-guying over commas and words, he torpedoed the autonomy talks, and through his settlement policy created a situation in which there would hardly be anything to discuss in 5 years, unless at the price of an Israeli civil war.

But politics is not only the art of the possible, but also the art of the right measure. If you think you grabbed everything, you ultimately find out that you have nothing in your palms. Begin knew no end: the annexation of the Golan, the talk on turning Jordan into the Palestinian state (I wonder what Begin would have said if Jordan had used the same terms about Israel), and finally the beginning of the implementation of the great scheme for the comprehensive solution of the Palestinian problem, of which the war in Lebanon was the first stage.

I am not saying that were it not for the war in Lebanon the Reagan plan would not have come to be. It was in the working stages, but this war led to its presentation in such an acute fashion and at such a bad timing for Israel, for a variety of reasons:

--The war in Lebanon was the last straw that broke Haig's back, he being the last brake to "Carterizing" Reagan's Middle East policy.

--This war was initiated by a government in which Sharon is a central element and of which Tehiya is a partner, strengthened its standing among the public, while at the same time sounding a warning bell regarding the next stages of the grand plan; namely a revolt in Jordan and the annexation of the West Bank.

--The impression Begin and Sharon created in their public announcements, where they said that the war was coordinated with the United States, immediately called for a balancing statement.

--The ouster of the terrorists opened up a good time for an arrangement.

--Most importantly: the sympathy for Israel in the public and primarily in Congress has begun slipping. The shocking sights of the war presented Israel as a country possessed by a demon, one that must be saved from itself. Under these circumstances and with such a timing it would have been highly surprising if the administration had refrained from adding a period and an exclamation mark to it all.

The main blow dealt to Begin is therefore primarily in the restraining element that lies behind the U.S. message: Reagan leaves no room for doubt that he does not regard Begin as an ally, that he is not giving him any "carte blanches" to effect new arrangements and orders in the region--either in the West Bank or in Jordan--and what is most important, he made it clear that he views Gaza and the West Bank as a Palestinian area which Israel will not be allowed to annex. It is still too premature to determine whether or not we are already on the brink of the big confrontation, with a capital "C," the very confrontation we thought was nearly there every 6 months in the course of the last 15 years. But certainly this marks a sharp turn in the relations, not because it just had to be like that in view of Reagan's speech, which includes many points that are not worthy of rejection but because on one side stands the President who put all his prestige at stake in his address to the nation, and on the other hand is a nationalistic government that has a majority only in its extremity [as published].

So, one can say that those who sowed with glee (without giving a damn) in Lebanon, will reap and shed a lot of tears in Washington.

And this marks only the beginning.

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'HA'ARETZ' ON JORDANIAN OPTION

TA032015 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Sep 82 p 14

[Commentary by Mati Golan: "Who Invented Palestinian Jordan"]

[Text] After a long period of rumors about an expected change the Palestinian-Jordanian cat has finally been let out of the U.S. bag. Late Tuesday evening Prime Minister Menahem Begin received a message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan containing the new U.S. position composed of two parts: Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip are an intent linked with Jordan, and absolute opposition to the establishment of new settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

The presidential message fell upon the cabinet like thunder on a clear day. From the prime minister to the last of the ministers, the cabinet members were unprepared either for the contents of the message or for its timing. It is true hints about expected changes in the position of the U.S. administration had been heard at last Sunday's cabinet session and the prime minister dwelt on this during the report on Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's talks in Washington, but from the aspect of contents, there was talk of a U.S. idea about a demilitarized Palestinian state. Not one word was said about the link with the Kingdom of Jordan.

The surprise was even more extreme with regard to the timing. Relying on the report he had been given by the defense minister, the prime minister described the U.S. ideas as unformulated thoughts whose direction could still be influenced. The President's message proves that when Begin was saying these things, the new U.S. position had already become a fact. The conclusion demanded is that the defense minister did not correctly understand the hints by Shultz, or the U.S. secretary of state concealed from his Israeli guest both the substance of the new direction and its timing.

The main question that the message aroused in Jerusalem was what caused the change in the position and its timing. There is certainly more than one answer to this question and undoubtedly the Peace for Galilee campaign played a decisive role. It proved to the Americans that as long as there is no solution to the Palestinian problem, there will be the potential for crises endangering the stability of the area and the delicate relations between East and West. The other side of the coin is expressed in the

concept of linkage with Jordan. It appears that the defeat of the PLO has convinced Washington that the safest and shortest path to the solution is through King Husayn and not any form of Palestinian leadership.

In the views of many cabinet members, there is another factor which had a far-reaching effect on the substance of the U.S. position and its timing. This factor, one of the gravest political affairs that Israel has known in recent years, is the new tidings that Jordan is the Palestinian state and therefore there is no longer any justification to regard Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip in this context.

It is difficult to specify precisely the originators of this idea, but it is identified with Minister Sharon and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Both of them have repeated this declaration countless times over the last few months, but despite the fact that they agree on the principle, there is a substantive difference between them regarding the implementation.

Shamir sees this declaration as a sort of ideological platform, from which emerges a political viewpoint that does not demand this or that action. For Sharon, in contrast, this has practical significance. What emerges from his words is that it is worth implementing the idea; Israel must take action, or in other words, work to overthrow Husayn and his regime with the aim of transferring the leadership in Amman to Palestinian hands.

Sharon and Shamir have been so in love with their idea that they could not see the faults and the potential danger concealed within it. The very fact of the determination that a certain country that has been recognized as such by the nations of the world is in fact another country is a most dangerous precedent. Sharon and Shamir found their claim on the fact that the Palestinians constitute a majority of the Jordanian population. Tomorrow somebody will be able to come to similar conclusions about other countries on the basis of various claims. In any event, such an idea is accompanied by a taste of political piracy and complete contempt for rules on which relations between countries and peoples are based.

Nor does this idea lift the burden concerning Judaea, and Samaria. Perhaps it even increases it, because it says, in contrast to the official policy, that the Palestinians are entitled to a state of their own. As soon as this principle is acceptable to Israel, only the problem of location remains. Sharon and Shamir say in Jordan, others will say in Judaea and Samaria. The argument then will no longer be about the question of whether the Palestinians will have a state of their own, but where it will be. There is no doubt that such an argument does not strengthen Israel, but weakens it.

Damage of another variety has an immediate nature: The two ministers who lofted high the flag of Palestinian Jordan did not take into account that the United States has interests of its own in the Hashemite Kingdom. In order to defend them, the leaders of the administration in Washington, with President Reagan at their head, have declared their commitment to the security and territorial integrity of Jordan. Sharon and Shamir

"succeeded," then, in offering King Husayn a declaration of commitment identical to that the Americans are making about Israel. However, what is perhaps graver than anything else is that a political message of such a high level was born and fostered as the personal initiative of Sharon and Shamir. Not even once was this idea discussed in the cabinet and no decision on this matter was made. Thus the two ministers have succeeded in identifying Israel with a political line that has never been approved by the authoritative body.

The prime minister cannot get out of the responsibility both for the faulty process and its results. In one of his public appearances he expressed reservations about the Sharon-Shamir idea, saying that it was unacceptable to him. Not only does this remark not absolve him, it even increases his responsibility. In any event he should have made Sharon and Shamir aware of the fact that they were expressing an unapproved position and demanded from them that they refrain from it. All the more so when this position contradicts his views.

Any claim to the effect that it was clear to all that the two ministers were expressing private opinions is unworthy of serious consideration. Had it been a question of one of the minor ministers, perhaps such a claim could have been used as a screen to hide behind, but on the level of a defense minister and a foreign minister, there are no private opinions. Every word coming from their mouths is received as an official position, or a sort of official position, of the government.

This affair certainly occurred in this way. It is no coincidence that Reagan's message was sent to Begin 1 day after Minister Sharon left the United States. The idea of a Palestinian Jordan became a main point emphasized by Sharon both in his talks with the leaders of the U.S. administration and in his public appearances.

If the Americans had any doubts, it appears that that visit finally convinced them that Sharon took his idea seriously. A few months ago they perhaps knew how to distinguish between a Sharon position and government policy, but the Lebanon war taught them that one way or another Sharon succeeds in carrying out his goals with or without the approval of the cabinet. They added up one and one and got the following answer: Sharon wanted to make a new order in Lebanon and he did so. Now he aims at a new settlement in Jordan. They apparently feared that if they did not rush to explain their position, one morning they would wake up at the gates of Amman.

Perhaps this is the greatest danger of the Lebanon war. It is true that many of the fears about it have been dispelled, but there are signs that for such a man as Sharon, success in one arena can lead him to the belief that he will also succeed in the other arena. Even today he and his aides can be heard reproving moderate elements that just as they erred concerning the U.S. reactions in Lebanon, so no trust should be placed in their assessments of the expected U.S. reactions concerning Jordan.

The difference between the two arenas is, of course, infinite. Even if traditionally, the United States has reservations about the use of force, the goals of the war in Lebanon did not contradict its basic interests. What helped its moderate reaction was the fact that the Soviet Union and Arab countries did not go crazy supporting the PLO-Syrian issue.

None of these elements exist in the case of Jordan. The United States has a great interest in the continued existence of the rule of Husayn, who has proved the stability of his pro-Western policy. Neither is there any doubt that Arab countries, with Saudi Arabia at their head, will not sit back doing nothing if Israel crosses the Jordanian border. Even if there is no reason to fear Saudi Arabia's military strength, the value of the power of the tools at its disposal to force the United States to curb Israel should not be dismissed.

There is an instructive lesson in this affair of how two ministers--one pushing and the other being pulled--conduct an independent policy which, in the end, obtains a result opposite to that the official policy aimed at. The only person so far to gain from the Sharon-Shamir idea is King Husayn.

Israel can still be a partner in the gains if it is clever enough to extract the good concealed in all this. In order to do this, it must move away from the Sharon-Shamir position and adopt the Reagan idea. There is no realistic solution to the Palestinian problem other than in the Jordanian context. Such a solution, it is true, involves territorial compromise, but it takes the sting out of the repellent prospect of a Palestinian state. Another question is whether the current government is capable of seeing the positive aspect of Reagan's message and acting accordingly.

CSO: 4400/470

RELATIONS WITH AL-JUMAYYIL, LEBANON QUESTIONED

TA051951 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Muslim leaders in Lebanon have announced that they would boycott Bashir al-Jumayyil, who will enter office as the president of Lebanon in 2 weeks, as a result of reports on his meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Ministers Sharon and Shamir. Al-Jumayyil and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir both denied the report that such a meeting took place, but it was reported that members of the prime minister's office were angry that the report on the meeting was leaked. It appears that the cabinet is divided over the policy that should be adopted now. Here is a report on this by our Arab affairs correspondent, Ehud Ya'ari:

[Ya'ari--live] The Israeli Government is experiencing differences of approach on the question of whether or not to urge Lebanese President-Elect Bashir al-Jumayyil to sign a peace treaty quickly. The prime minister believes now that Shaykh Bashir should reach the signing of such an agreement by the end of the current year. In Mr Begin's opinion there are no grounds to claim that more propitious conditions for such a move might be created in 6 or 12 months. On the contrary, it is obvious that Syria will demand that Lebanon undertake an official commitment not to make a separate peace with Israel as one of the main preconditions for the withdrawal of its forces from the al-Biqa' area. The prime minister believes, therefore, that it is better to present a fait accompli.

In private conversations, Bashir al-Jumayyil has been saying that he is grateful to Israel, but he fears that the signing of a peace treaty might lead to a series of dangerous developments as far as he is concerned, such as--among other things--the expulsion of Lebanon from the Arab League; punitive economic measures against Lebanon such as the expulsion of tens of thousands of Lebanese employees from the Persian Gulf, and the withdrawal of deposits from the Beirut banks; as well as a boycott imposed by the Muslim leaders on his regime, to the extent that it would be difficult to find a Sunni leader of stature who would serve as the prime minister.

Incidentally, the leaders of Tripoli already declared a boycott of Bashir al-Jumayyil today, and tomorrow a similar organizing will take place in west Beirut.

It should be noted that among al-Jumayyil's associates there are some personalities who are inclined to accept Begin's opinion, that it would be best to cross the Rubicon fast. But the majority of the Phalangists' Political Bureau, including Bashir's father, Shaykh Peirre al-Jumayyil, as well as Camille Sham'un, maintain that security arrangements, open territorial continuity and normalization should be enough. Indeed, al-Jumayyil has been promising that the range of the de facto relations between the two countries will easily exceed that of the normalization between Israel and Egypt. This approach is acceptable to senior Israeli Government ministers as well. They believe that there is no reason to push al-Jumayyil into a corner under the present delicate circumstances. Moreover, there are elements in Jerusalem which believe that Israel should be interested in preserving the relations between Lebanon and Saudi Arabia and Syria, and should be interested also in Lebanon remaining within the Arab League. In their opinion Israel will not benefit at all from the isolation of Shaykh Bashir inside Lebanon, or from the isolation of his administration in the Arab world, because this might mean the extension of the state of crisis in Lebanon up to the need arising for a constant Israeli guarantee in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Israel will probably continue to prevent Shaykh Bashir from introducing his forces into the area under Major Haddad's control in the south, in the area just under Sidon and Lake al-Qir'awn.

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IDF CORPS COMMANDER ON SYRIAN, PLO CONFRONTATION

TA041323 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Sep 82 p 17

[Interview with Armored Corps Commander Maj Gen Moshe Barkokhba by Mordekhay Barqay: "We Can Prevent a War of Attrition"--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The Syrians themselves broadcast on the radio that their 85th Brigade, which was evacuated from west Beirut, was directly brought to the Lebanese al-Biqa' and deployed there. What does this mean? Is it indeed true?

Answer: This is a strike brigade--in its command and weaponry. Such a brigade, to be operational, needs 44 modern tanks according to the Syrian concept. It needs two artillery battalions. It needs antiaircraft means and antitank means. According to the more extensive Syrian concept, such a mechanized brigade needs modern (B.S.P.) armored personnel carriers in order to have a striking capability, combined infantry and armored capability. The 85th Brigade lacks all of these elements.

At the same time, a brigade which was confronted with such hard conditions as the 85th, severed from supplies, shelled and sustaining casualties, possesses all the necessary background to become a symbol. The Syrians indeed did a wise thing as far as they are concerned when they turned it into a symbol.

In any event, with this brigade, even though it was introduced into the al-Biqa' front, I expect that at a certain stage the Syrians will remove it and reorganize it in order to return it rehabilitated to their operational forces.

Question: What is the Syrian power in Lebanon today?

Answer: When the Peace for Galilee war started, there were about 300 tanks in Lebanon. There are about 1,200 tanks there now.

Question: How many are these, relatively speaking?

Answer: This is half of the Syrian army, and this presence means they do not intend to leave Lebanon.

Question: Now that the evacuation has ended, can we turn over the Beirut leaf and turn eastward, or are we still lingering on the Beirut page?

Answer: One should remember that the Syrians still have a very strong hold on the Sannin Mountain, on the Beirut-Damascus road in the Dahr al-Baydar, in addition to the Lebanese al-Biqa'. They are reinforcing this hold and bringing in commando, armored and artillery units and fortifying themselves. The Syrian deployment starts in the west, near the sea, in Tripoli, extends around the Christian enclave, and defends from the mountain all the axes leading down to Zahlah, and bypassing the Syrian deployment on the Beirut-Damascus road. This is the deployment which comes on top of the Syrian deployment in the al-Biqa', and it is getting stronger with fortifications, troops and also terrorists. We know that some of the terrorists who left Beirut for Syria reached this sector.

Question: There is talk of terrorists' presence inside the Syrian lines. What is in fact the difference between their activity and the activity of a regular army which wants to harrass you?

Answer: The operational ability of the terrorists is much inferior to that of the Syrian commando. We caught some such squads and studied their equipment, their training and the procedure of preparing and launching them for operations. These are not even first-line terrorists; some of them came from foreign countries, from training courses and from terrorist units which had withdrawn before the IDF. In these lines the terrorists do not enjoy the infrastructure they had in Fatahland or in Tyre or Sidon, nor the background when they knew each other and their fighting spirit was not yet shaken. A squad is caught there and it transpires that two of its members are from Yemen for example, one from Syria and one from Libya. Before the operation they choose the people, compose the squad and sent it off to a mission. The implementation of the mission is less professional than what we will have to face if the Syrians decide to use their regular commandos for harrassment. However, again: the area is very convenient for such terrorist activity as laying mines and running away. This is an area covered with orchards and woods. The natural infrastructure is very convenient. They are deployed there along a very large line of nearly 70 km. They have bases all through there. Their chances of success are not such as to wear us out, but to harrass--yes.

They managed to inflict losses on us, reached a certain peak and the wave was checked.

Question: As a result of what?

Answer: As a result of the strike they absorbed on that day of fighting and as a result of some techniques we adopted against them. Now there is almost no serious harrassment. This does not necessarily mean that the situation will last. It may be that after the evacuation, penetration attempts will be resumed with more vigor.

Question: Is it unavoidable that sooner or later fire will break out between us and the Syrians?

Answer: No. This first depends on us. In past years I criticized the ways of reacting to harrassment. We entered a process: they provoke, we react, they react and we again respond to their reaction. We reacted with raids on foot, and they were very successful militarily, but in most cases we sustained losses and this turned out to be not worth doing. The deterioration continued. We started using artillery, and then the air force. Later we used armored raids for the limited operations such as "Qalahat" [not further specified] and the Litani operation, and then we reached the Peace for Galilee operation. We have now reached a situation where we have received the go-ahead to react with strong fire to terrorist attempts. Let us assume that terrorists penetrate and approach a position of ours. They shoot RPG. We know their bases of departure. That base from which the squads left, including the Syrian forces there, receives a fire strike from a mass of our artillery, and not after a while but immediately after the incident has occurred. Take a position directing fire at us--it immediately receives a much stronger strike. This illustrates to them that any attempt to provoke us with fire is responded to on our part with a fierce and massive reaction. As I have learned in recent weeks, they well understand this language. When we do not follow this path we invite disaster. When we restrained ourselves after an incident with one squad, this was followed the next day with five squads, and after 2 days you find yourself with nine squads which try to attack your position.

If this does not help, we will have to move. However, the bottom line is that Syrians as well as the terrorists must understand that if they try to drag us into a war of attrition we will not accept this method, and will be prepared to shift into a more general confrontation. I believe that if the Syrians understand this approach quiet will prevail.

Question: Are you saying all this on the assumption that we are dealing with the Syrian army, not the terrorists?

Answer: I make no distinction. We have a good example--the Golan Heights. Look how the Syrians took control of the terrorists' activity there. And that situation came about because we were willing to enter into a general confrontation, because we were not dragged into minor fighting and because we did not open the front to such methods of reaction. The Syrians assessed this situation and drew conclusions. In today's balance of forces, every Arab army will reach the conclusion in advance that if this leads to a general confrontation, it is not worth taking the risk over several terrorists and several attacks which, in any case, will not be decisive for the State of Israel. In other words, it is not worth losing a military infrastructure and morale and taking a heavy blow for something that will not provide any significant achievements anyway.

If the Syrians so desire, there will be no terrorist activity. But for this, they must understand that we are ready to enter into a more general confrontation in order to guarantee the cease-fire. This is a much cheaper and much more efficient way than a protracted deterioration.

Question: Is it possible that at the eastern tip of the sector, across from the Galilee panhandle, the terrorists will strike at Israeli settlements?

Answer: That possibility exists every evening. The distance is not great. They can bring a squad down from the Golan Heights and infiltrate; or--as has happened--a squad can infiltrate with Katyushas, position the launcher in the Hasbiyah region and fire at our settlements.

Question: Has this happened?

Answer: It happened a month ago. Just as it happened that they hit a bus full of Israeli tourists near Tyre. Or the army. But the terrorists certainly do not have the ability they had when they were sitting in Beaufort Castle. But this should not detract from the value of moving the terrorists and the danger of their fire further away from the settlements in the north.

Question: Could the civilian population in the central sector become a factor in the development of rifts between the IDF and the terrorists who are inside the Syrian zones?

Answer: First, not only are we trying very hard to let the inhabitants run their lives without viewing us as a conquering army, there are scrupulous orders in the army against entering cultivated plots. It is forbidden to establish installations in cultivated areas. Although there is a grave shortage of buildings for the winter, we are not requisitioning schools. And these are spheres in which the Syrians have behaved with great severity. At the same time, we must remember that these areas can be sources of intelligence for the Syrians and the terrorists, just as they can be places of refuge, cover and jumping-off points. What I mean is that these areas must be watched in terms of security. We must know what is happening there and, from time to time--if there is need--we may also impose a curfew and conduct searches, without harming the population's normal life.

Question: In the meantime, are there signs of growing hostility?

Answer: No. Because we are permitting the population to cultivate the fields--not just in our areas, but even beyond our lines to the no-man's land, where they cultivate plots and return via our roadblocks, with all the risks this involves. We are not inside the villages and we are not treading on any corn, but we are providing a proper attitude. And in many places we are supplying water, too, which we bring in tankers. And medical aid when it is needed. If a civilian bus runs over a Syrian mine, for example--and there have been cases of this--he is immediately evacuated on an Israeli helicopter.

Question: Can the IDF train in Lebanon?

Answer: We have organized training and other education areas. But, because of the topography, the agricultural areas, the settlements and restrictions on directions of fire, training there in Lebanon cannot be on a large scale, as it is in the Golan Heights. Moreover, training can only be conducted before winter.

Question: From the aspect of the IDF command, where is it more difficult to deal with soldiers, where do most disciplinary problems spring up: in populated areas, urban areas, or open field areas?

Answer: Urban areas corrupt an army. The history of armies and war teaches us this. This is why IDF orders are to place units out in the field as far as possible and to minimize reliance on civilian installations. This order has existed for a long time and there is a new emphasis on it. The scrupulously observed rule is that the army should be independent in terms of maintenance and organization. There should be no burden on the civilians. On the other hand, no situations should be created which result in temptation and corruption as a result of proximity to civilian installations. The civilian settlements are in fact out of bounds--presence in them is only permitted to drink or eat something; not for purchases. In an interview published in Bamamane with an officer of the chief military police, it was revealed that, relative to the enormous number of soldiers crossing the border both ways--tens of thousands a month--the number of smuggling cases is very small.

CSO: 4400/470

ARENS INTERVIEWED ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS

TA031343 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Sep 82 pp 1, 36

[Interview with Moshe Arens, ambassador to the United States, by Dov Goldstein: "A Hard Struggle Is Expected Between Israel and the United States If the Americans Try To Implement Their New Policy"--time and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Did you anticipate the substantive change in the U.S. position--the negation of the settlements and a full link between Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, on the one hand, and Jordan on the other--and did you forewarn the Israeli Government about this?

[Answer] We have known for several months now, in fact ever since Secretary of State Shultz entered the picture, that the U.S. administration is conducting deliberations and clarifications and is trying to consolidate positions, perhaps also a new plan, regarding everything pertaining to what they call "the Palestinian problem." I clearly knew that the U.S. administration leaders view this problem as an urgent matter. In contrast, I cannot say that I expected the President's message and his speech to the nation at this moment. I must say I hoped that there would be another stage of consultations with us before the consolidation of the U.S. policy and certainly before publicizing the points.

[Question] Were the general lines of the new policy clear to you before they were made public?

[Answer] Yes. The moment you hear George Shultz you know. Even as early as his testimony before the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, while he was undergoing the confirmation hearing for the position of secretary of state, when he said that the central problem in the Middle East is the Palestinian problem and that as long as it is not solved peace cannot be established in the region and that we are talking of a people without a state and without the ability to control its own fate--one need not be a prophet nor even too wise to understand the direction in which the U.S. administration is aiming.

The same holds true for the settlements: The administration leaders indeed said a number of times that President Reagan did not say that the

settlements are illegal but certainly said that they are not constructive and do not aid in the peace process. They are objectionable then in the administration's eyes not because of their legal character but as a negative element affecting the chances of peace.

[Question] Would you say that the United States now supports the idea of a Palestinian state or at least some sort of a "national home" for the Palestinians?

[Answer] This was not discussed in Reagan's message. In his speech to the nation the President rejected such a possibility. I cannot tell you what the U.S. administration's position could have been today had it not been for our firm opposition to a Palestinian state. The Americans know the depth and firmness of our opposition and take this into consideration.

[Question] Do you trust the administration's declaration that it adheres to the Camp David accords?

[Answer] The secretary of state told me on a number of occasions in recent weeks that the administration will not deviate from the Camp David accords and that it views them as the tool for the establishment of peace. This is a significant declaration indeed, in view of the fact that some claimed that the United States is going to abandon its support for the Camp David accords, but the test of this declaration of support for the Camp David accords lies in the nature of the interpretations the Americans give them.

[Question] Does President Reagan's message to the prime minister prove that the U.S. interpretation of the Camp David accords empty them of content and indicate that the United States does not in fact adhere to them?

[Answer] One should read the message carefully. The government will do this. Only later will it be possible to answer the question as to whether the content of the message and the President's speech to the nation are compatible with the Camp David accords or contradict them. However, it is already clear after a first reading of the message that it contains quite a few things that are hard to reconcile with the content of the Camp David accords.

[Question] What should Israel do now in reaction to the U.S. plan? Should it continue with settlements at an accelerated pace or officially annex Judaea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip?

[Answer] We should continue what we have done to date and protect our interests, first and foremost our security interests. At the same time we should meticulously observe the commitments we undertook under the Camp David agreements. As long as they are valid and interpretations do not empty them of content, we are bound by the accords and must honor all our commitments. If Israel reaches the conclusion that the agreements are no longer valid since the parties to them have made them meaningless, we will have more liberty to do things we have avoided so far due to our commitment to the accords.

[Question] Do you anticipate a difficult period in Israeli-U.S. relations due to the interpretations the Americans attach to the Camp David accords?

[Answer] One should beware of forecasts. The U.S. administration has proven that once it decides a policy it vigorously tries to achieve the objectives it sets for itself. If it behaves on the Palestinian issue the same way and tries to firmly achieve the objectives, there will be a struggle between Israel and the United States. We will under no circumstances accept what appears in the President's message to the prime minister. It may be that when the administration realizes it has no chance of convincing us to agree to things totally contradicting our interests it will relent and will not try to impose an agreement on us via pressure.

[Question] Is it possible that the United States has adopted this policy in order to shake off the image in the Arab countries that it is a party to Israel's actions in the Lebanon war?

[Answer] There is no doubt that this was one of the incentives or pressures that prompted the administration in this direction. Since the beginning of the Peace for Galilee operation the administration has been subjected to harsh pressures by the so-called moderate Arab countries. In meetings between the Egyptian, Jordanian and Saudi ambassadors with the U.S. administration leaders, in urgent telegrams by the U.S. ambassadors accredited in the various Arab capitals, in telephone calls by Arab leaders to the White House, the Arabs accused the United States of aiding Israel's war in Lebanon, that it is a full partner or at least a silent partner, to the Israeli initiative. There is no doubt that fear has gripped the U.S. administration--false fear in my opinion, totally unfounded--that the ties with the Arab countries are gradually being severed and that real acts must be taken to prove that the United States does not say yes to Israel and that it intends to handle the Palestinian problem in a manner that is not compatible with Israeli policy.

[Question] Can you list additional reasons, besides the Lebanon war and the U.S. fear of appearing as Israel's partner, due to which such an uncomfortable policy for Israel on the Palestinian issue has been consolidated in the United States?

[Answer] There are key figures in the administration who are troubled by the Palestinian problem. There were such also in the previous administration and they were headed by former President Carter who was "bugged" by the Palestinian issue. Some in the present administration believe that it is absolutely urgent to handle the Palestinian problem and that as long as this problem is not resolved peace cannot be established in the Middle East. That was not President Reagan's policy upon entry to the White House. Something has changed with him. That was not the policy of Secretary of State Haig either. This is the policy of Secretary of State Shultz and of Secretary of Defense Weinberger. The pressure by the Arab countries as a result of the Lebanon war created, for the supporters of this approach, an appropriate timing and proper circumstances to reinforce them both in the eyes of the U.S. President and among the U.S. public.

[Question] In other words, we will now be asked to cash the bill for U.S. support for the joint Israeli-U.S. objectives during the war in Lebanon?

[Answer] I would not say it in this way. The U.S. support for the joint objectives was not conditional. The support was given since the United States found itself in a position where its interest and our interests were really identical. The President repeatedly declared that the U.S. objectives in Lebanon are the guaranteeing of an independent Lebanon, the evacuation of all foreign forces from it and freeing Israel from terror on its northern border. Those were also precisely the objectives of Israel. The common objectives of the United States and Israel are now materializing there. The identity of interests produced U.S. support. This support was not conditioned on Israel agreeing to the U.S. positions after the war if those positions run counter to our interests and positions. However, the United States is taking advantage of an opportunity after the war. If one rightly understands and assesses the basic positions of people such as Shultz and Weinberger, this is the basic direction to which they are aiming and they would have adopted those positions also without the Lebanon war.

[Question] It was claimed recently that for the first time in the history of Israeli-U.S. relations a peculiar and unusual situation has developed, different from previous years, where the administration is sympathetic to Israel more than the Congress and the U.S. public. Everyone was convinced that the previous situation could not last. Is the administration now balancing the scales and also tilting against Israel?

[Answer] There was an identity of strategic objectives between the administration and the Israeli Government which carried an unprecedented character in the bilateral relations: in an important arena Israel and the United States were on the same side. However, it is natural that in Congress, among the public and in the communications media there was also opposition to this common position of the administration and the Israeli Government. Many in the United States objected to the war despite the identity of strategic objectives, since they were fed by television and the terrible sights viewed in every home.

It is clear that in a country such as the United States there is mutuality between the administration and the Congress. Congress reflects the public position and public opinion, at least as the congressmen read it. The administration has a continual interest in not creating gaps between its positions and Congress' positions. It is clear that a situation whereby there is agreement between the administration and the Congress is better for the administration than a situation reflecting large gaps.

[Question] How does the dispute among the U.S. Jews regarding the Israeli Government's policy affect President Reagan's positions?

[Answer] There is no significant dispute among the institutionalized and less institutionalized Jewish community. There is solidarity with Israel and very considerable support for the Israeli Government, Israel and the military operation in Lebanon. I never heard a critical question or an

approach which expressed reservations about Israel. It did happen, but in few cases only. The conference of presidents of major U.S. Jewish organizations as well as other elements in the Jewish public have clearly adopted positions that support Israel unequivocally.

Peace Now movement's and other elements' advertisements against the government's policy were published in the large U.S. papers. Arab elements pounced on this and used the advertisements to reinforce their argument that even the U.S. Jews do not support the Israeli Government and its policy in Lebanon. However, these exceptions did not reflect reality at all.

[Question] If this difficult struggle with the United States over the Palestinian question is now imposed on Israel, do you believe that the U.S. Jews will side with Israel?

[Answer] I believe so. I should add here though that the support I described to you was on the matter of the Lebanon war. Autonomy and the problems of Judaea, Samaria, Gaza and the Palestinians are a different issue. We will have to talk with the U.S. Jews, to explain and convince. I believe that if we do so with talent and sincerity we will be able to enlist their support.

[Question] You earlier spoke of the contribution of George Shultz and Caspar Weinberger to the shaping of the new U.S. policy. Mr Shultz' appointment to the post of secretary of state aroused intense fears in Israel. Is it now possible to say that these fears were justified?

[Answer] The man who more than others influences the administration's foreign policy is the secretary of state. This was true in Haig's days and this is also true under Shultz. A lot depends on the basic positions of the man serving in this post although it is clear that ultimately it is the President who decides. Haig viewed Israel as a strategic partner of the United States and therefore it was only natural for him to see the identity of interests and the common objectives and to emphasize the common Israeli-U.S. goals. We do not know now if this is what Shultz also thinks. He came from the academic world where he spent a large part of his life. He thinks systematically, he collects data, he studies matters. I do not believe he has already determined his final positions and I would not want at this stage to state that when he does consolidate these final positions they will be similar to or different from Haig's.

His concentration on the Palestinian problem is a fact. He brought this approach with him to his department and spoke of it already during the confirmation hearing.

[Question] What was your impression of him as a person?

[Answer] In our talks it became clear to me time and again that he is a man with an analytical mind. He tries to be objective and learn things. It is pleasant to talk with him. He is a pleasant man.

[Question] Have you noticed in him anti-Israeli tones?

[Answer] No, no. In every meeting with him he emphatically mentions his basic sympathy for Israel and tells of his relations with Israelis during his academic activity. He says: "I have a personal commitment to Israel's security." I have no doubt that these sentiments are sincere.

[Question] Do you foresee a possibility of the administration toughening positions vis-a-vis Israel on additional issues such as a cut in the military and economic aid?

[Answer] I do not want to predict things. Nobody knows. We are faced with some events that will allow the trends to be judged. Shortly the administration will decide on the size of aid for 1983-1984. We will have to wait and see if the administration will want to use financial support as a means of pressure and a lever to push us toward the administration's positions or will settle for using persuasion only. This administration has already learned the lesson that any attempt to pressure us with economic means does not achieve the goal and sometimes achieves the opposite.

[Question] In your estimation, when are we to expect the lifting of the freeze on the supply of 75 F-16's to Israel?

[Answer] There is no freeze, at least at this stage. The deal was concluded with Israel a few years ago and the United States undertook to supply Israel with 150 F-16's. Seventy-five have already been supplied. The United States should supply the other 75 only in a few years and not immediately. However, in order to begin with the production process for carrying out the supply the administration should inform Congress of its intention to supply the planes to Israel and if, within 30 days, Congress does not express opposition, this is viewed as approval. The administration was going to announce the deal during the first days of the war in Lebanon and it was decided then, without special discussions, that this was not the proper time. It decided to wait.

[Question] The Peace for Galilee campaign during which Israel sacrificed about 340 dead and about another 2,000 wounded, has won the United States an outstanding victory and strengthened its position in the Middle East and the world. Would you say that the United States is rewarding Israel as it should or is being ungrateful to it?

[Answer] Time will tell. Only in due course will we be able to answer that question. It will take time before the United States digests and understands the magnitude of its gains as a result of the war in Lebanon. In my opinion the gains are huge. Many in the United States also think so. The entire status of the United States vis-a-vis the Soviet Union has changed completely for two major reasons:

- a. The proof that we found an answer to some of the Soviet weapons, especially to those Soviet arms which until recently had been considered

most potent, particularly the antiaircraft systems. We too experienced the power of these arms when many of our aircraft were downed during the Yom Kippur War by the Soviet missiles.

A distressing assumption was prevalent in the United States for many years that in a possible confrontation with the Soviet Union the West will lose a considerable number of its planes. It is clear today that Israel and the West possess the answer now and the ability to attack the Soviet systems and neutralize them without considerable losses.

The ratio of power between the blocs and superpowers as understood and conceived of for years has greatly changed as a result of the lessons of the Lebanon war.

b. At this stage the Soviet Union has vanished as an influential element in the Middle East. Only the United States is left. The entire Arab world is going to Washington, not to Moscow.

The enormous gains and profits the United States has earned by this are then crystal clear and most impressive. However, only the near future will prove whether the United States intends to reward us for these or use them in our detriment, to cooperate with us as strategic allies or to pocket the profits and "reward" us with a kick.

[Question] Does Israel present any conditions for sharing with the United States the lessons and technological secrets it learned from and used in the war against the Soviet missiles?

[Answer] We have not yet reached the stage of speaking of the manner and way for the transmission of this knowledge.

[Question] The defense minister reiterates that Jordan is the Palestinian state. Do you believe likewise?

[Answer] This is not, nor can it be, a matter of beliefs and views, this is a fact. In fact, Jordan is situated on three-quarters of the area which the League of Nations at the time slated for the British mandate for the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people.

This does not answer the question as to what the borders of this Palestinian state should be. Husayn would have wanted his kingdom to extend as far as the 1949 borders and in June 1967 wanted to reach the sea and set out to act on his wish. Some believe that in addition to the Palestinian state in Jordan there should be another in the West Bank. Israel does not believe so.

[Question] When the United States is interested in the preservation of the Husayn regime is it wise to repeatedly declare that Jordan is the Palestinian state?

[Answer] Yes. We should repeat this argument time and again since the counterargument is that we have here a poor people numbering 4 million souls

without a home and without a state as the Jews were prior to the founding of Israel, and that this people too deserve a home of its own and should be given a home in the areas of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. If one accepts this basic assumption it will be difficult to convince him of the justness of our claims. Only when people understand that the Palestinians have a state of their own and their demand is to expand the borders of this state or to establish a second Palestinian state, only then will it be possible to convince them of the justness of our opposition to the establishment of a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

[Question] Do you think this argument stands a reasonable chance of being accepted?

[Answer] Absolutely. We started it too late but facts are acceptable to reasonable people. As for Husayn's regime, this is not our business. We do not demand that he be deposed. Jordan, as a Palestinian state, under Husayn's rule, will not be the only Arab country where the ruler is not elected by the people. What sort of a regime is established in the Palestinian state east of the Jordan and who rules it is the business of the inhabitants of the Palestinian state.

CSO: 4400/470

'ITIM' ON SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY IN WEST BANK, GAZA

TA070945 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0930 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Hebron, 7 Sep (ITIM)--Nearly 150 families, which have been organized in nuclei in the past 18 months and which have recently applied great pressure on the settlement bodies even going so far as to threaten to establish settlements independently, will inhabit the seven new settlements the cabinet decided to set up this week.

They are orthodox nuclei, plus two nonreligious ones.

The organizational activity took place primarily in the Beersheba and Qiryat Arba' areas, and they include families comprised of young couples through serving their compulsory IDF military duty as well as new immigrants from the United States, South Africa and some from Britain. All of them plan to set up their homes in the new settlements out of their own pockets, but at the first stage the World Zionist Organization will put at their disposal temporary dwellings until the infrastructure work is completed, involving for instance, roads, installing electricity and laying water pipes.

In each of the seven new settlements--Adora, Negohot, Yaqin, Susya, 'Omarin, Kokhba and Ginnat--there will be dozens of houses, but in view of the present budgetary constraints a smaller number of houses will be built initially in those settlements.

Three of the settlements--Adora, Negohot and Yaqin all on the southern slopes of the Hebron hills--have already been inhabited as Nahal outposts, but with the cabinet resolution they will soon become civilian settlements.

It should be pointed out that six of the settlements will be established in the Hebron hills and one settlement, Ginnat, northeast of Janin.

A senior official in the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department told the ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria today that the establishment of more settlements in the territories, beyond the eight [as received] settlements the cabinet has already approved, is already in the planning stages and is not at all connected with the Reagan plan or aimed at provoking the United States. This is because it is the Jews' right to settle anywhere they

want in Eretz Yisra'el. In this context, that official noted that more nuclei have organized for settlement and they have been pressing for action toward preparing the ground at once.

A week ago the department was instructed to draw up a plan involving 1,000 settlers for the Gaza District and to set up settlements for them in the shortest possible time. At the moment only a few hundred Jews reside in the Gaza District.

As part of the plan to settle 1,000 Jews in Gaza, the first settlement--Ele Sinay--is currently being established. The cabinet decided on its establishment as part of the eight new settlements. It will absorb evacuees from the Jewish settlements destroyed in the Sinai following the return of the peninsula to Egypt.

The settlers in some new Judaea and Samaria settlements will live off tourism. Vast reconstruction work is currently underway in Susya, on the southern slopes of the Hebron hills, at the site of a Jewish town dating back to the Talmudic ages as well as of a grand synagogue found there. In the new settlement of Yaqin on the border between the Hebron hills and the Judaean Desert, on a peak rising up to 800 meters above sea level and which overlooks the Dead Sea, the settlers will live in guest houses. The other settlements on the southern slopes of the Hebron hills will thrive on small industry--primarily defense-related industry--but the possibility is not dismissed that agriculture will also be incorporated, in accordance with the prevailing conditions there, seeing that the area is semiarid.

CSO: 4400/470

SCHIFF ON WEINBERGER VISIT, SHARON

TA071646 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Sep 82 p 9

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "Israel Is Strong Enough"]

[Text] The visit to Israel by U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and the Government of Israel's historic reaction to President Reagan's speech have exposed the profound contradiction affecting us in presenting our strategic affairs. After presenting ourselves for weeks as the best war machine in the world, and accepting with satisfaction the unjust determination that Israel today is the fourth military power in strength, the time has now come for hysteria and panic. We are presenting President Reagan as the one who now wants to strangle us, and his plan is being presented as threatening Israel's existence.

On the other hand, we are presenting our military power to Weinberger and we do not fear that this display of muscle, especially after what we did in Lebanon, does not fit in with the claims of the threat to which Israel is exposed by the weapons that the United States wants to sell to Jordan and other Arab countries.

Once, before the Six-Day War, Levi Eshkol proposed to 'Ezer Weizman, before the latter left for the United States in order to put forward a request to purchase U.S. planes, that he present Israel as "poor Samson." Now, we are presenting ourselves as the historic power of the area.

What did Sharon try to present to the distinguished guest on his short visit to Israel? The main thesis guiding Sharon in his attempts to create a strategic link with the strongest of the powers is: The Americans are naive, if not more than that. Great and strong, but they do not know what is good for them and the Western world. Washington does not know what it is missing when it does not rush to complete the strategic agreement Sharon proposed. This is an agreement with the strongest of the Middle Eastern powers and only it will contain the expansion of communism. If the Americans do not understand the importance of this they should be led and facts should be determined in the field. Even if they do not want it, they must be offered Lebanon on a silver platter and shown what the IDF is capable of doing.

Weinberger was told in different words that it was not pure friendship between a large and a small nation, or between a superpower and a country it patronizes. This must be a partnership in which Israel is not asking for favors. Therefore, Sharon's advisers repeatedly emphasized that the defense minister did not at all raise the matter of the F-16's and F-15's whose sale to Israel was suspended by Washington. However, in actual fact, this is only a half truth, if not less than that. The matter was not raised in public, for the outside, but it was raised in talks between the two ministers.

Sharon says that if the suspension of certain weapons for Israel continues, Israel will refuse to supply the United States with the lessons of the latest war. During the visit, Sharon used a sort of temptation method. He showed the secretary of defense a Soviet SAM-9 launcher which had been captured by the IDF and this was a sort of hint of what we have in our pockets, but U.S. experts say they do not think that Israel is holding Soviet weapons that are unknown in the West, or special information, as it is trying to hint. The T-72 tank did not fall into Israel's possession despite all the hints on this matter, and the assault method used against the Soviet missile batteries will not in any case be exposed. The experts go on to add that Israel should not forget that the IDF waged the war with the aid of U.S. tools and, in this context, the destruction of the antiaircraft missiles and the downing of the MiG's. [sentence as published]

Sharon's approach, and through him that of the Government of Israel, is that of a desire for rapprochement with Washington on the one hand, and provocation and threats on the other. That is also how it was on the eve of Secretary of Defense Weinberger's visit to Israel. When Sharon heard President Reagan's plan for the Middle East, he at once ordered heavy military and civilian equipment and work to begin on new roads to additional footholds in the West Bank. This was a way of throwing down the glove at Reagan.

The visit was meticulously planned, Sharon's aim being to show the U.S. secretary the inventive and creative skill of Israel's security industries, as well as its military power. Emphasis was placed on the Merkava tank, the Kfir plane, the pilotless plane and the maneuvers carried out on the Golan Heights in the course of which weapons were also used whose details had not been publicized. All of these were completed with selected films of our air force's activity, which were shown to him at an air force base. There is no doubt that Weinberger and his entourage saw the strong, military Israel with muscles. But they also saw the well-nourished Israel, in which there is no sign of economy and modesty, an Israel armed to the teeth with modern expensive weapons systems. They understood, as one of the military aides said, that in Lebanon, Israel waged a "rich man's war," with U.S. aid, of course.

Such a strong Israel is important as a friend, but such a strong Israel has no reason to complain about the fact that the United States also wants to provide its other friends in the Middle East with weapons. This is the substantive contradiction in the way in which we presented ourselves on the

one hand, and on the other, our opposition to the supply of weapons to Jordan.

In other words, Israel with its enormous military power has nothing to fear from more F-16's for Jordan or its defense being strengthened with several batteries of antiaircraft missiles. The one who really has something to fear is Jordan. Now, after the military threat by the PLO has been driven away, as Weinberger himself phrased it, Israel might aim at a change in the regime in Jordan and raise to power the Palestinian majority there instead of the Bedouin minority, as Sharon is hinting openly. An Israel with such aspirations could also be dangerous to U.S. interests in the area. This is an Israel that is too strong for the taste of many Americans, mainly because it has, in their opinion, showed signs over the last year, of being an insane country, an Israel that is democratic, but unstable in its trends and intentions. This is a trend we are coming up against more and more against the backdrop of the war in Lebanon. Weinberger's visit to Israel will not change this trend and will perhaps even reinforce it.

CSO: 4400/470

KIBBUTZIM INCREASE USE OF INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Aug 82 p 7

[Article by Macabee Dean]

[Text]

TEL AVIV. — Three kibbutz industries are using robots and another five will start using them within a few months, Danny Tanel, chairman of the robotization committee of the Association of Kibbutz Industries, said yesterday.

Tanel noted that about 60 per cent of the 320 industries at kibbutzim are in a position to introduce robots, as will be most of the 100 plants planned for the next five years.

"To the best of our knowledge, the only other robots being used in Israel are in the military industries," Tanel said. He added that there are none in private industry, although of the next 20 robots to be installed by the kibbutzim, six or seven will probably be for private firms.

Tanel noted that the kibbutzim became interested in introducing industrial robots about two years ago and had conducted a study of the implications for the social structure of the kibbutzim. They also surveyed on which kibbutzim robots could best contribute to industrialization.

A centre was sent up at Kibbutz Tzora, in the Jerusalem Corridor, to import computers and manufacture components for the robots. Eventually the plant will manufacture the robots themselves. Courses on how to use robots will be held at Midrasha Ruppin.

"During the next 12 months we expect to expend about \$2.5m. on all phases of 'robotization,'" Tanel said. This is about one per cent of the total industrial turnover of the kibbutzim, which today make about half of their income from industry.

CSO: 4400/461

SHALE OIL R&D PROGRAM UNDER WAY

Jerusalem INNOVATION in English No 81, Aug 82 pp 3-4

[Text] Tel Aviv--A major effort for the development of a practical oil shale utilization method is now under way in this country, mainly through PAMA (Energy Resources Development) Ltd., a government corporation. Although experts elsewhere are less sanguine,--one of two large shale oil projects has only recently been closed down in the United States--Israel scientists and engineers remain confident of success.

This confidence obviously is shared by policy makers and government officials responsible for this field of activity, from Minister of Energy and Infrastructure Yitzhak Berman on down. Preliminary evaluations of studies already carried out not only indicate that such shales can be turned into an economically viable fuel resource, but that this would yield significant benefits to the Israel economy and its balance of trade. Because of that, an extensive R&D effort will be carried out over the next three years, at an estimated cost of some \$20m.

While efforts to locate petroleum have had only very limited success, in this country, proven oil shale deposits already stand at some four billion tons. There probably is much more: surveys are still under way, mainly in the Negev. Even with a relatively low organic matter content--shales here average no more than a 15% hydrocarbons--that can cover this country's fuel requirements for many years, once an practical oil shale utilization technology has been found.

PAMA Ltd. is a joint venture of public and private investors; most of its stock is in the hand of several government corporations, but a 25% minority interest is shared by Israel's three fuel distribution firms. The company took over and now continues the work begun some time ago by Energy 2000 (see INNOVATION 61, December 1980), a much looser organizational framework active until the end of last year. The firm is headed by Prof. J. Jerushalmi, whose professional experience includes some years as a top research executive with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), in California.

The work now under way at PAMA falls into two main categories. The first is an effort to find an economical retorting method, by which kerogen, the shale's organic component, is extracted from its rock matrix. The product

mainly will be a liquid, very similar to good quality crude oil, but some gas is also obtained as a byproduct.

The second line of investigation seeks practical ways of direct combustion: the crushed rock, including both organic content and its mineral matrix, are to be fed directly to large industrial burners, for the production of steam, electric power or some other usable form of energy.

By and large, Israel researchers now consider retorting their first priority. Shale oil is needed because petroleum has become an increasingly costly and politically sensitive commodity. There already are viable substitutes, such as coal and nuclear energy, for central power plants and major industrial uses, but no really satisfactory replacement has been developed, as yet, for the operation of vehicles and other applications, where the advantages of a liquid fuel are overwhelming.

However, there is no contradiction between those two approaches; they rather are likely to complement each other. Richer shale deposits might be retorted, while poorer ones are combusted, also to provide the thermal energy needed for the retorts' operation. The latter process also is not likely to extract all of the shales' organic component, and retorting residues could be fed to suitably designed burners, to complete their utilization. At the very least, direct combustion would provide the energy consumed in the retorting process.

Four different retorting technologies, now in various stages of development elsewhere in the world, are being closely studied by PAMA experts. Rock samples have been sent abroad for extensive retorting experiments. At least one of the technologies so examined extracted a liquid "petroleum" from Israel shales in significant quantities; closely examined by refining experts that was found to be of good quality.

Based on such intermediate success, PAMA has now ordered a detailed economic and technological feasibility study. The study will examine the technical possibility, as well as the economic viability of an integrated shale mining and retorting project capable of producing 20,000 barrels of oil per day, the equivalent of approximately one million tons a year. That investigation will not be completed before the end of 1982, but the results of preliminary calculations have been encouraging.

Meanwhile, PAMA researchers are moving ahead in the field of direct combustion. A pilot plant, capable of burning on the order of one ton of shale per hour, will be completed early next year, probably to be followed soon by a large scale pilot installation with a capacity on the order of 10 MW. In this context, the company also has established contact with several of the world's leading boiler manufacturers, in order to optimise the design of a shale-fired installation.

In its study of all aspects of this question, PAMA is not neglecting environmental aspects. Complete restoration of the proposed strip mines in the Negev is included in all its projections, and studies also have been commissioned on the possible industrial utilization of the inorganic shale residues, after retorting and combustion. One likely possibility is the extensive use of this material for the manufacture of portland cement, and elsewhere in the construction industry.

OIL EXPLORATION ISSUES DISCUSSED

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Aug 82 p 7

[Article by Charles Hoffman]

[Text] The hundreds of barrels of oil gushing out of the well at Tzuk Tamrur I were good news for the Energy Ministry, which funds most oil exploration in Israel, but they also caused a few minor headaches. The first was the urge among the public to draw hasty conclusions about a major oil strike, and the second was how to give "equal time" in the media to the main figures in the government oil companies.

The ministry spokesman attacked the first problem by stressing in almost daily press releases that it was too soon to judge the commercial potential of the find. This seemed to have little effect on the share-buying public, which scrambled for shares of oil investment firms not even connected to Tzuk Tamrur.

The second problem was deftly handled in the television coverage of the initial announcement of the big jump in the daily output of the well from 30 barrels to about 400. The announcement was issued in the name of the head of the Israel National Oil Company (Hanah), Dr. Elazar Barak. This was followed by a film taken at the site featuring the head of the Oil Exploration Investment Company (Hanah), Yossi Langotsky.

The main government oil company is Hanah, which includes Hanah as a subsidiary responsible for carrying out and supervising drilling operations. The fuzzy lines of authority and responsibility

between Hanah and Hanah, in addition to the personal tensions between Barak and Langotsky, led the Energy Ministry to recommend a reorganization of the government oil firms.

The proposal, drawn up by director-general Uriel Lynn and recently released, calls for the unification of Hanah and Hanah and for overall responsibility for all government oil operations to be lodged in one director. The candidate for this job is likely to be Barak, a career IDF officer turned oil professional with a reputation as a sound if rather cautious administrator.

Within the new company will be the post of exploration manager, which will probably go to Langotsky. He is an ex-career officer, who studied geology, and is known for his drive and exuberant optimism — qualities that complement but also conflict with those of his more staid superior Barak.

The unification of the Hanah and Hanah is also supposed to eliminate administrative duplication.

The main innovation in the recommendations is to create a subsidiary of the main company dedicated solely to mobilizing investment capital, whether from individuals or groups in Israel and abroad. It seems that the investment company formed several months ago, at the ministry's initiative, to raise oil exploration funds on the stock exchange, known as Magen, will serve as the nucleus of this sub-

sidiary.

A ministry source has indicated that this firm will probably be headed by Abba Fromcenko, veteran industrialist and former director of Elite. Fromcenko was appointed chairman of Hanal's board of directors last year, and drew criticism for reportedly aggravating the tensions between Barak and Langotsky, who both have supporters in government oil circles.

The ministry's reorganization proposal gives Fromcenko an implicit slap on the wrist for recommending that the chairman of the new unified company should stay out of day-to-day business.

Lynn's report also recommends that Lapidot continue as a separate government company which contracts drilling services to government or to foreign firms.

CSO: 4400/461

LARGE REVERSE OSMOSIS DESALINATION PLANT PROPOSED

Jerusalem INNOVATION in English No 81, Aug 82 p 2

[Text]

Sdom — The construction of a large scale energy economical sea water desalination plant, as part of the Mediterranean — Dead Sea (M-DS) Canal project, has been proposed here by the experts of Mekorot, the country's national water supply company. Such an installation, to operate on the reverse osmosis principle, would derive most of the energy it needs from the 400 meter drop to the level of the Dead Sea. Mekorot has extensive experience with desalination facilities, having operated more than twenty of them over a period of years.

Reverse osmosis is a system, in which the relatively pure water component of a saline solution is "pushed" through a permeable membrane, while another part of that liquid — and with it most of the dissolved salt — remain behind. In this manner, potable water is produced at the cost of a relatively modest energy expenditure.

The canal from the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea, now in an advanced state of research and planning, is intended to serve two major purposes. First of all, the 400 meter (about 1,300 ft) difference in elevation between those two bodies of water will be utilized to drive a large hydroelectric plant; with the help of an extensive regulating reservoir, high above the Dead Sea, peak hour production has been projected at 600MW.

Secondly, the influx of large quantities of Mediterranean water is intended to halt, and during an initial period even to reverse, the saline lake's steady evaporation. After some years an equilibrium will be reached, with the inflow thereafter stabilized at something like one billion cubic meters a year.

The desalination scheme now proposed for the canal's Dead Sea terminal would utilize the 400 meter head in the system to provide most of the 56 atmospheres (about 800 psi) needed to push water through the membrane stacks. The somewhat lower

pressure still present in the product water and in the discarded brine would operate turbines linked directly to some of the pumps required in the system. Residual brine could be dumped into the Dead Sea, or else returned to the regulating reservoir, from which sea water flows to the hydroelectric plant. If the latter, slightly more expensive approach is taken, desalination will not affect the system's generating capacity, which is limited by the amount of water that can be dumped into the Dead Sea to replace evaporation from its surface.

The reverse osmosis plant is intended to provide ample quantities of potable water, a vital resource for the settlement of that desert area. An output of up to 100,000 cubic meters per day seems feasible, at a relatively modest cost in terms of both capital investment and operating expenditure. The former is estimated at between \$1.50 and \$2, per cubic meter of annual output, or \$45 to \$60m. for a 100,000 cu.m./day plant. The projected product cost of between 28 and 49 cents per cubic meter of fresh water also seems eminently reasonable, well within the price range modern communities could afford to pay.

CSO: 4400/462

CHEMICAL FIRM PURCHASES DUTCH FERTILIZER PLANT

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Aug 82 p 7

[Article by Macabee Dean]

[Text]

TEL AVIV. — Israel Chemicals yesterday announced that it had purchased a fertilizer plant in Holland for \$5.5 million, which will refine Negev phosphate rock.

The plant is owned by U.K.F., itself a subsidiary of D.S.M., a concern owned by the Dutch Government. D.S.M. has an annual turnover of \$7.5 billion, and it is one of the largest enterprises in Europe.

Israel Chemicals had been negotiating this deal for some time, but only recently did it receive final approval from the ministerial Economic Committee. Transfer of title will be on September 1.

Under the agreement, U.K.F. will refine 500,000 tons of phosphate rock each year for the next five years, with the option of extending this agreement. Each 500,000 tons of phosphate rock is valued at \$25 million.

U.K.F. will not only refine the phosphate, but will also market it under its own name, thus ensuring

that the fertilizer can be sold to all of the company's present European customers. The former U.K.F. plant will continue to be manned by the present Dutch staff.

Israel Chemicals also hopes that the agreement with U.K.F. will pave the way for future close cooperation with not only that company, but also with D.S.M.

Since Israel produces about two million tons of phosphates a year, the future of at least one quarter of this amount will be more or less assured for the next five years. This is important since the world market for fertilizers has been depressed lately due to the international business recession.

Israel Chemicals itself expects to export goods (phosphates, potash, refined products) from the Dead Sea Works valued at \$370 million in 1982/83. This constitutes a 15 per cent increase over the previous year (although the sum has not been deflated to take the depreciation of the dollar into account).

CSO: 4400/461

BRIEFS

AUGUST MONEY INJECTION--The treasury pumped 5.5 billion Israeli shekels into the economy during August, a record sum in nominal terms. Bank of Israel sources said that the high August figure should be compared with July when only 800 million Israeli shekels were printed. Comparison of the two figures suggests that the government delayed part of its payments during July, causing a spillover of money printing from one month to another. The war in Lebanon was another large source of expenditure. The amount of money printed during the April-August period was some 15 billion shekels and this figure is equal to the full amount of new money the government had projected for the entire year. During August the Bank of Israel absorbed a net of 900 million Israeli shekels from the public through sale of bonds. [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Sep 82 p 6 TA]

FOREIGN DEBT--Israel's foreign currency debt totalled \$18.4 billion at the end of March, compared to \$17.2 billion at the end of March 1981, an increase of 7.1 percent. [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Sep 82 p 6 TA]

NABULUS LECTURERS PLEDGE NO PLO COOPERATION--The civilian administration in Judaea and Samaria summoned the lecturers who have foreign nationality in the Nabulus an-Najah University and compelled them to sign a declaration whereby they will not act in the framework of the PLO or any other terrorist organization. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari learned from the civilian administration that this instruction is within the framework of Jordanian law and that similar precedents exist also in the Western countries including the United States. The civilian administration got the sister of the removed Janin mayon on early retirement. She worked for many years as a teacher and is about 35 years old. Our correspondent has learned from the civilian administration that this act was legal since every school year there is a realinement of the education system and there is no discrimination between teachers. [Text] [TA050916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 5 Sep 82]

TRAVEL TO EGYPT URGED--Jerusalem, 5 Sep (ITIM)--A call for the resumption of activity intended to promote tourism between Egypt and Israel is included in the congratulatory message Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir today sent Mr (Tawfiq 'Abdu Isma'il) on the occasion of his appointment as minister of tourism and civilian aviation in the new Egyptian government

formed last Tuesday by Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din. The message was transmitted through the Tourism Ministry representative to Cairo, Mr Maurice Cassuto. As will be recalled, the Egyptian Government froze tourism traffic to Israel. Minister Sharir expressed the hope that the freeze with Egypt will be thawed, and called for the resumption of relations with his counterpart, whom he invited to Israel for either a visit or a working meeting to promote activity to encourage tourism between the two countries. [Text] [TA051735 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1655 GMT 5 Sep 82]

JEW-ARAB POPULATION RATIO UNCHANGED--The demographical tendencies show that the population growth on the West Bank is significantly lower than the population growth among the Jews in Israel. This is the conclusion drawn from a survey by the "Institute for the Study of Peace and Development in the Middle East," headed by Dr Meron Benvenisti. The mean annual growth of the population on the West Bank has reached 1.4 percent while the mean growth of the Jewish population was 2.3 percent. Therefore, for the last 14 years, the demographic ratio between the Arabs in the territories and the Jews in Israel has not changed. [Text] [TA061113 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Sep 82 p 2]

LOCAL JUDGE APPOINTED IN WEST BANK--Ramallah, 7 Sep (ITIM)--For the first time in the history of Judaea and Samaria, the civilian administration today appointed a local female judge, lawyer Imam Nasir ad-Din, to the magistrates' court in Ramallah. The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria reports that at a formal ceremony held in the court in Ramallah the head of the civilian administration, Professor Menahem Milson, gave Ms Nasir ad-Din her letter of appointment. The ceremony was attended by local dignitaries, including judges and lawyers. [Text] [TA071600 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1550 GMT 7 Sep 82]

'SHELTER TOWN' IN NAZARETH--An Israeli construction company, together with an Arab businessman, has begun to erect in Arab Nazareth apartment buildings intended to be a "shelter town" for Christian Arabs from Lebanon should fighting be resumed there. The erection of the buildings is being carried out with the help of the adviser on Arab affairs in the prime minister's office, Binyamin Gur-Arye. The adviser on Arab affairs from the prime minister's office recommended to the Ministry of Housing that it approve mortgages to help those purchasing the apartments. The initiators say that at least some of the apartments will be sold to Arab Christian families from Lebanon who will--in the event of a resumption of hostilities in that country--be able to move to Israel and live in the four-room apartments that will be selling for \$65,000-75,000 each. [By El'azar Levin] [Excerpts] [TA071203 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Sep 82 p 1]

PLO PLAN TO BUY JERUSALEM HOTEL--The PLO had planned to buy the Jerusalem Astoria Hotel and rent residential buildings in East Jerusalem to help the organization's activists fulfill their missions and maintain PLO influence among the Arab public. This plan was uncovered yesterday in a military court in Lod, at the beginning of the trial of Nabil ('Azat) Salami (26), a law student from East Jerusalem who is accused of belonging to a banned organization. [By Yitzhaq Danon] [Excerpt] [TA071233 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Sep 82 p 6]

ARMS DEAL WITH CHINA DENIED--A REUTER correspondent in the Chinese capital quotes Western diplomatic sources as saying that a delegation of the Israeli Tadiran Company will visit China in the coming month in order to present electronic equipment for tanks to Chinese Army leaders. The Chinese Army commanders, the REUTER correspondent says, are interested in a closeup look at Israeli military technology. One Western diplomat told the correspondent that following the visit, a deal between the Tadiran Company and China will be possible. Acting Director of Tadiran Yitzhaq Ish-Horowitz denies any possibility of a deal with China. He told our correspondent Uri Paz: We know nothing of this affair, and there are no contacts between us and China. Other informed Israeli figures also firmly denied this report of a possible deal between China and the Tadiran company. [Text] [TA091335 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1315 GMT 9 Sep 82]

ABANDONED PLO ARMS CONVEYED TO ISRAEL--Tel Aviv--Ninety per cent of the arms and ammunition abandoned by the PLO in southern Lebanon have been conveyed to this side of the border, the army spokesman revealed yesterday. Twenty heavy-duty trucks are transporting the remaining arms, found in 400 arms caches in Lebanon, he added. By the end of August, 4,641 tons of ammunition had been moved, entailing the use of over 1,500 trucks, the spokesman said. Also transferred were 1,031 vehicles, including several hundred T-34, T-55 and T-62 tanks--part of them damaged in battle. In all, 28,481 light arms were seized, as well as 1,181 anti-tank weapons, 202 mortars and 56 Katyusha missile launchers. The number of field guns impounded was 76, including 122mm, 130mm, 155mm and some 25 pounders. The number of antiaircraft weapons was 161, including 127 guns. The booty also includes 1,486 items of communications equipment and 1,871 items of optical equipment. [Text] [TA120746 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Sep 82 p 2]

LECTURERS REFUSE TO CONDEMN PLO--The military government of Judaea and Samaria apparently will not extend the visas of 28 lecturers at an-Najah University. The lecturers have informed the civilian administration that they do not agree to sign a declaration condemning the PLO and other terrorist organizations. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that the military government will not extend the visas of the lecturers in the area, and the university apparently will be forced to stop studies. Three of the lecturers have already left the area. Bethlehem University has suspended studies for 1 week because it claims that the military government is not allowing students and lecturers to enter the campus. [Text] [TA121413 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 12 Sep 82]

PATROL BOATS--HAIFA--The Coastal Police have awarded the tender for the construction of two fast patrol boats to the Israel Shipyards here. The 16-metre-long boats, powered by twin 450 h.p. Cummins engines, are to be completed within a year, at a cost of some \$600,000. They will be deployed in Haifa and Ashdod harbours. [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Aug 82 p 7]

HIGH ENERGY BATTERY--Senior chemistry lecturer at Tel Aviv University, Dr. Emanuel Peled, and his assistant, Herzl Yamin, recently embedded discs of

lithium and sulphur in a liquid electrolyte and produced a 2.2 volt cell that is claimed to possess the highest energy density ever found in an electric battery. Energy density is defined as the amount of electric energy a cell can deliver per kilogram of battery. The Peled/Yamin battery not only has an energy density 50 to 100 percent higher than other batteries, but also probably has a shelf life of at least 10 years. No precise cost estimates for commercial production have as yet been offered, but patents have been applied for in half a dozen countries. The prototype cell resembles a button that is one centimeter thick, and its design facilitates the production of lithium batteries sealed with relatively cheap organic sealants such as polyethylene or epoxies. At 2.2 volts output, and with a ten year life, the batteries are precisely suited to serve as backup units for the memory banks of mini and micro computers, and they should also interest the manufacturers of pacemakers implanted in heart surgery. [Tel Aviv BUSINESS REVIEW & ECONOMIC NEWS FROM ISRAEL in English No 84, 1982/II p 5]

DEAD SEA WORKS EXPANSION--The Dead Sea Works, one of the world's major suppliers of potash, has announced that it is launching an \$88 million expansion project. During fiscal 1981-82 the company reached a production peak of 1.5 million tons of potash. Approximately six months ago it completed the first phase of its expansion program, which added 420,000 tons to its productive capacity, at a cost of \$93.5 million. Upon completion of the second stage, just approved, 480,000 tons will be added to the company's annual production. By 1985-86 the Dead Sea Works will reach a total capacity of 2.1 million tons. [Tel Aviv BUSINESS REVIEW & ECONOMIC NEWS FROM ISRAEL in English No 84, 1982/II p 5]

SHALE OIL DEPOSITS--New shale oil deposits recently discovered in the Rotem Plain in Israel's northern Negev region increase the country's proven reserves by approximately 30%, to between 4.0 and 4.5 billion tons. The quality of shale oil deposits is determined by the proportion of organic matter found in the rock. In Israel, the beds contain an average of 14% organical material, though test drills conducted by the Ministry of Energy's geologists have uncovered instances as high as 25%. By and large, the quality of Israel's deposits is similar to that found in Europe, though lower to that encountered in the U.S.A. Since extraction is highly expensive, investigations are currently under way to determine precisely which foreign ore extraction techniques might be most appropriate for Israel, while funding of research into locally developed methods also continues in parallel. [Tel Aviv BUSINESS REVIEW & ECONOMIC NEWS FROM ISRAEL in English No 84, 1982/II p 4]

CITY SETTLEMENTS--David Levy, the Israeli housing minister, visited Hebron, August 2, and announced that he wants to make necessary restoration work on Deboya building to prepare it for Jewish settlers. Levi also revealed information about other Israeli projects in the area. The ministry, he said, has decided to sell 124 plots of Ja'abreh land to new settlers. Levy said that the ministry would expand the settlement plans on the Hisbeh (market place), and on land belonging to Ja'abri family near the city-settlement of Kiryat Arba. "To carry out their policy the Israelis opened a road three months ago between Ja'abreh land and Givat Harasina. Givat Harsina is an Israeli settlement built on 1200 dunums of land confiscated from Aroud Farah, Khalet al-Dabeh, Boqa'an Foul, and Wadi Forous," a member of the Ja'abari family told Al Fajr. Levi also stated that the housing ministry will aid the settlers' council in Kiryat Arba to build popular institutions in the area. [Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 6-12 Aug 82 p 15]

TEL AVIV CRIME STATISTICS--The crime rate in Tel Aviv dropped by almost 19 per cent in the first half of 1982 as compared to the same period last year, Tel Aviv-police chief Avraham Turgeman said yesterday. Briefing reporters, Turgeman said that home burglaries dropped by 29 per cent, with 5,335 reported as against 7,514 in January-June 1981. Police intelligence reports credited the overall decrease in criminal activity to the concentration of more police in crime-prone areas and the arrest of gangs engaging in drugs and robberies. Tel Aviv police arrested five gangs trafficking in drugs during the past six months, Turgeman said, dealing a "stunning blow to the higher echelons of local criminals." The police chief noted, however, that murders increased from 6 cases to 13 in the comparative period. He also said the war in Lebanon would result in an influx of illegal weapons for the city's criminals, and revealed that Lebanese hashish is already on the Tel Aviv market. [Excerpt] [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Aug 82 p 3]

CSO: 4400/462

PAPER SEES GAP BETWEEN U.S., ARAB PEACE PROPOSALS

JN121116 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 11 Sep 82 pp 1, 21

[Opinion column signed by Hakim: "Fes Resolutions and Reagan's Plan"]

[Excerpts] The Fes summit resolutions released yesterday appear to be a "starting point" for efforts to bring about a just peace in the Middle East based on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil. However, the resolutions do not appear to be grounds for negotiations with the United States which has committed itself to rejecting the idea of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and insisted on direct negotiations within the framework of the Camp David agreements.

Hence, it appears that it is very difficult to bridge the wide gap between the Arab plan and President Reagan's plan which he proposed on 1 September. The Arab plan underlines the PLO's role in the peace process in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This new decision further consolidates the 1974 Rabat summit resolution which cancelled the possibilities of the "Jordanian role" on which the U.S. plan depends whether during the stage of autonomy negotiations or at the end of the transitional period and the establishment of the "independent Palestinian state."

Furthermore, the Arab plan completely ignores the Camp David framework to which President Reagan committed his country, the framework which the President described as the "sole" ground for the establishment of peace. The Arab plan proposed instead an international framework, namely the UN Security Council. Another thing, the Arab plan restricts the transitional period to "a few months" during which time the occupied territories will be placed under UN supervision and not that of Israel.

But despite the "legitimacy" of the Arab plan's principles it remains very difficult to find common ground between this plan and that of President Reagan unless the Arab leaders or President Reagan change their stands and such a change seems unlikely now for numerous reasons.

What is the solution?

Israel, naturally, has rejected both plans because they take land away from it. Therefore, this rejection should not surprise anyone because Israel wants to keep land and is not interested in coexistence and peace.

The Arabs have not rejected peace and, accordingly, have not rejected President Reagan's plan, yet they proposed another different plan. Hence, Washington now has one of two choices: either to alter its stand by getting closer to the Arab plan, or to dissociate itself completely from the autonomy plan and the second part of the Camp David agreements which is based on Begin's claims that the occupied territories are part of the state of Israel. Washington's excuse for that would be that it has failed to make Israel give up the occupied territories and that since the United States is a superpower it has to shoulder its responsibilities by returning the entire case to the Security Council and the United Nations.

Only by doing so, can Washington exonerate itself from the charge of conniving with Israel to devour the occupied territories and can return the Palestinian cause to where it should be after 6 years of tragic failure.

CSO: 4400/475

EXPOSE OF EXPLOITATION OF LOCAL WORKERS BY FOREIGN COMPANIES

Amman AL-UFUQ in Arabic No 17, 28 Jul-3 Aug 82 pp 8-9

[Article by Ibrahim Nasrullah: "Foreign Companies and the Game of Avoiding Censure"]

[Text] Foreign companies are puring into the Jordanian arena, there is a continuing flight of Jordanian workers which has been climbing since the early 70's and the local market is crowded with Arab and foreign workers.

Foreign companies are violating the Jordanian labor law in using workers and playing games with the legal quota that must be met while the wages of Jordanian workers are low compared with those of Pakistani, Indian and Korean workers who are employed in the same field. The policy of the incoming companies can be summed up as one of taking up residence and operating, and then let the Ministry of Labor regulate what it can if able. These companies know how to get away with violations with clean hands, using more than one method of trickery.

Visiting Some Companies

We had heard that the companies operating at Queen 'Aliya' Airport were committing more than one violation and that there were many employees who knew the areas of corruption and details of the situation because of their direct access to them as part of their responsibilities and who were prepared to expose things. When we arrived everything had changed. The figures which we had gotten (from outside) showed that one of these companies had 320 Indian workers under contract and 210 with no contracts, most without work permists while those who had work permits were carried as agricultural workers. It also had 25 British technicians and 20 Arab workers, including Jordanians.

Only 5 Percent

These figures show that only 5 percent of the workers are Arabs and Jordanians while the ratio of Jordanian workers in foreign companies is supposed to be not less than 25 percent and not less than 75 percent in Jordanian companies.

This in itself is trickery which apparent to everyone, except naturally the Ministry of Labor.

It is odd that one foreign company operating here puts a big sign on the door of its employee affairs office on which "workers needed" is written in Hindi while another sign beside it says in Arabic: "We have no openings."

Beginning

We went into more than one cool room in the midst of the dust rising because of the construction work and the blazing sun. We started with one member of the staff who, as we said, had been eager to lay out the violations of the company where he worked, whatever the consequences, only to find that he was evading this on the plea that he was busy and stating that the chief laborer could give us more information. In order to show more than the barest courtesy, he insisted on treating us by bringing us two soft drinks. While drinking them, we tried to hold a simple conversation with him to clarify the situation prevailing at his company but he was alert to the hole he could dig for himself and remained silent.

The same situation was true in another office because the official said that he was sorry but he did not want to give any imprecise information and the record books were inlocked desks.

Sensing that this had not been and would not be fruitful, we went over to the young boy who worked in the company's canteen and who would certainly know that number of Jordanian workers employed at these companies because he dealt with everyone but he had been intimidated, the threats having arrived before.

Jordanian Workers Are in Menial Positions

A number of Jordanian workers, who showed obvious and painful signs of despair, were gathered at the supplies warehouses. It sprang to mind at first glance that they had been brought in to fill the vacuum because these companies needed them to round out numbers or to be nothing more than a token presence for Jordanian workers in these companies since, in essence, they were employed in the warehouses as nothing more than porters. Also the weariness and dust which marked their bodies showed how worn out they were from exhausting work and they said as much to us. In addition, they lacked the blue clothing and protective helmets were obvious on the Indian and Pakistani workers and so were exposed to many, avoidable injuries.

True Slavery

The question which arises now is how can a man live in such a fashion in his country, this man who comes from the edge of the desert, and how can the foreign companies be allowed to be the enslaver of his strength to such a painful degree and to treat him as a slave?

This situation is quite prevalent in the areas which are relatively remote from the cities and where the foreign companies are working on national projects.

Absence of Health Care

While the imported worker makes not less than 3 dinars, the Jordanian worker on these projects gets at most 2 dinars and is there, as we said, to round out the playing pieces of the game for the Ministry of Labor and its inspectors.

A husky worker covered with dust and dejection came over to us after one of his coworkers had called him over to show us doctors' and druggists' bills which the company had refused to pay for him as a worker covered by health insurance while there are various types of medical care for imported workers.

The worker dejectedly pushed the bills in front of our face, saying: "Look. I work here and have the right to be compensated for these bills." The total cost was not more than 6 dinars but that is a burden for the head of a family in al-Jizah who is squeezed by illness and poverty.

Foreign Companies and the Departure of Our Technical Workers

Usually we would say that the presence of companies of such size carrying on their activities on our projects would have a great impact on Jordanian workers and technicians here as they would constitute an opportunity to practice their skills and reinforce chances for them to gain expertise. However, what we see definitely shows that our technicians are not benefitting from these companies and the situation on these projects is like the situation when we import technology and use it and the situation remains just as it was.

Were the Ministry of Labor, the Engineers Union and the Ministry of Works to have made an example of this issue and set a proportion of technicians to force the companies to employ them on a regular basis rather than leaving it to these companies which control the workload here and then if the workers absorbed by the companies are only to avoid censure in the face of the laws and the visits by labor inspectors, they would not thereby have paved the way for the forced migration of our skills abroad in search of their daily bread and have cost the local labor market the capabilities on which so much had been spent?

Figures...And Eye Witness Accounts

Then, are not the statistics on which we are briefed by various sources, and which state that the number of foreign workers is not more than one-quarter of the work force, misleading to a great degree? This is what has been established by visits to the work sites and eye witness accounts only with no discussion of personnel records.

And Then...

A number of studies which have been made of labor market project an increased erosion of the local labor force during the next few years and, consequently, the labor market in Jordan will suffer from a shortage in experienced workers who cannot find suitable wages and wages equal to those of imported foreigners in the fields of their specialities.

Statistics show that the number of Jordanian graduates during the period from 1981 to 1985 will total 143,000. The studies project that among these graduates will be 63,000 graduates of universities, institutes and training institutions and that the continued migration of Jordanians abroad will lead to a shortage of workers with university certificates and of technicians and skilled workers. Will there be other, genuine studies that will regulate the work of Jordanians on the projects which are being paid for from their blood or will it be left to the foreign companies which are doubling their profits to impose a pay policy that they feel is appropriate and to determine the size of the workforce in Jordan as they wish?

8389

CSO: 4404/629

FACTORS BEHIND TRADE DEFICIT DISCUSSED

Amman AL-UFWU in Arabic No 17, 28 Jul-3 Aug 82 p 4

[Article: "Our Imports Amount To Five Times Our Exports"]

[Text] In the language of economics, a country that is economically healthy is one whose exports exceed its imports. Whenever the figure is upset in favor of imports, this shows that that country is in a bad economic situation and that it has not yet achieved the prerequisites for self-sufficiency. In other words, it cannot depend on itself and achieve its economic security. Accordingly, it very much needs to review the overall economic situation to pinpoint the problems in centers of production and to draft plans and pass legislation to increase and promote production, all this of course going hand in hand with regulation of and limits on imports.

If we take a passing look at our volume of exports and imports in Jordan during the past 4 years from 1977 to 1980, we find that there is still a wide gap between exports and imports and that we have been unsuccessful in reducing the trade deficit during those 4 years except by 1.25 million dinars, that is, 5 million dinars over 4 years, a meaningless amount if compared with the trade deficit and the rate of inflation. According to figures of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, the trade deficit amounted to about 372.3 million dinars in 1977 and to 368.9 million dinars in 1980.

If we review the import-export figures, we find that the gap between imports and exports is almost steady, the percentage of exports to imports having not exceeded imports by more than 1.5 percent during the 4 years from 1977 to 1980.

The percentage of exports to imports in 1977 was about 18.1 percent. While exports were worth 60,253 million dinars, imports amounted to 454,417 million dinars. In 1978 the ratio of exports to imports was 19.8 percent, there having been 64,129 million dinars in exports while imports amounted to 458 million dinars. The ratio of exports to imports continues to show a slight rise, not more than 2 percent a year, reaching 22.2 percent in 1980 when exports amounted to 120,107 million dinars and imports 715 million dinars.

If we compare the import figures with those on exports, we find that the rate is almost steady between the two figures and there is still a broad gap between them.

This in itself warrants a review and reevaluation of the import situation as a whole and a move to regulate and control them, confining them to essentials, as a necessary means to halt the trade deficit and put a stop to the imbalanced ratio between exports and imports on the one hand, and on the other to use the funds allocated for imports in developing and exploiting resources and means of production in the country.

Phosphates are regarded as the backbone of Jordanian exports since in 1980 they were worth about 470,199 million dinars. Exports of phosphates played an important role in increasing the total value of exports, constituting 55.7 percent of the total increase in exports in 1980.

The reason for the increased production of phosphates was the increased worldwide demand for them.

Industrial exports rose by 56.9 percent in 1980 compared with 1979 and the value exports of foodstuffs rose by 13.4 percent.

In 1977 the value of exports to Arab countries was about 36,065 million dinars and in 1980 rose to 72,913 million dinars, that is, half of Jordan's exports are to Arab countries. The Arab market's share of Jordan's exports rose from 16,418 million dinars in 1977 to 47,792 million in 1980.

Next in importance from the standpoint of imports in Jordan comes the group of socialist countries, the value of their imports having risen from 4,172 million dinars in 1977 to 15,153 million in 1980, that is, a rise of about four times in 4 years.

Iraq is the primary importer from Jordan since its imports in 1980 amounted to about 28,247 million dinars.

India is also in the vanguard of countries importing from Jordan. During the past 4 years its imports rose from 4 million to 8 million dinars.

The largest portion of Jordan's international imports was from the EEC countries. In 1977, Jordan's imports from the European economic group amounted to 157,983 million dinars and continued to rise, reaching about 259,731 million dinars in 1980.

Imports from Saudi Arabia constituted about 87 percent of total imports from the Arab countries having totalled 114,124 million dinars in 1980 out of a total of 130,323 million in imports from all the Arab countries.

The reason for this is the fact that Jordan is totally dependent on oil imports from Saudi Arabia.

Jordan's imports from the Arab Common Market declined from 23,072 million dinars in 1977 to 18,914 million in 1980.

Imports from the United States were uneven. While they amounted to 67,355 million dinars in 1977, they declined to 61,587 million in 1980 while imports from Japan climbed in 4 years, rising from 28,717 million dinars in 1977 to 51,338 million in 1980.

Machinery and transport equipment occupied first place in the table of imported goods, totalling 156,843 million dinars in 1977 and rising to 199,971 in 1980. Manufactured goods were in second place while foodstuffs occupied third place, with a total value of 58,858 million dinars in 1980.

8389
CSO: 4404/629

JORDAN

BRIEFS

OIL WELL DISCOVERED--Before the holiday, the department involved in oil prospecting in the Natural Resources Authority successfully drilled a second oil well in the al-Azraq area and took samples from it for the laboratory at the authority and the Jordanian oil refinery. After drilling the second well, Jordanian prospecting experts reached one main conclusion, that is, that the two wells are located in a single basin and that the prospecting area, according to initial results, constitutes a single oil field. The second well is 2.5 kilometers from the first. Jordanian experiences in oil prospecting with Jordanian money and Jordanian knowhow are to be considered a model for prospecting and production in this complex industry for the third world, oil companies having in the past performed this job in return for half the production and the imposition of conditions incompatible with national independence and honor. Jordanian experts, along with Iraqis whose prospecting ability was confirmed in the huge fields they discovered east of Baghdad, are optimistic at what has been accomplished so far. Dr Kamal Jarisat, head of the Jordanian team, is in top form after the health setback he suffered a few weeks ago. [Text] [Amman AL-UFUQ in Arabic No 17, 28 Jul-3 Aug 82 p 5] 8389

CSO: 4404/629

KUWAIT

PAPER CRITICIZES U.S. STANCE ON ARAB PEACE PLAN

GF130516 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 11 Sep 82 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "The Efforts, the Good Offices and the Success of the Fes Summit"]

[Excerpts] We can say now that the Fes summit achieved positive and promising results designed to set the bases for firm Arab relations and to pave the way for a new stage that brings with it a promising Arab future.

One of the outstanding results of the conference was concluding an Arab peace plan which adheres to the establishment of the Palestinian state on the soil of the homeland under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Begin and his generals rejected all the peace initiatives which demand them to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and which call for the need to establish a Palestinian state. While the European capitals welcomed the Arab plan, Washington refused this plan which is more just and more realistic than the U.S. plan which neither recognizes the PLO nor the Palestinian entity. This position which is adopted by Washington is harmonious with its permanent and continuous policy which is committed to the interests of the Zionist entity. Therefore the Arab leaders have to follow up this subject and to officially discuss this plan with the European countries which are more understanding on the Palestinian question and the rights of the Palestinian people following the war of annihilation which the Palestinians were subjected to at the hands of the Israeli forces in Lebanon. Besides the Arab leaders have to also follow up this subject with friendly countries and the nonaligned bloc in order to execute it and obtain the required support so as to impose it on the Zionist entity which clings to all the Palestinian territories. We hope that all of this will be achieved so that Arab citizens will be sure that this nation is approaching a new stage that augurs for a better future.

CSO: 4400/475

KUWAIT

KUWAITI AMIR DISCUSSES FES SUMMIT

GF121516 Kuwait AL-ANAB' in Arabic 12 Sep 82 p 3

[Interview with Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah by the chairman of the KUNA board, KUNA director general and chief editors of Kuwaiti daily papers en route from Morocco to Kuwait at the conclusion of the Fes summit--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What are your views about the Arab summit conference and the nature of the discussions that were held?

[Answer] The previous summits were homogeneous and were dominated by complements. This conference was more realistic and there was no bargaining. Its sessions were distinguished by frank discussion and objectivity. What helped in making this conference successful is the past experiences which were experienced by the Arab leaders, their realization of how heavy the responsibility is, the sensitivity of the Arab situations and the fact that the sessions were restricted to the heads of the delegations and two other members which provided a control over the information emanating from the summit. If the next summits are to be held in this way, then their resolutions will be more serious and more fruitful than the previous conferences.

[Question] Why didn't Kuwait join the seven-member committee?

[Answer] I personally apologized for not becoming a member in the committee since I have no time to play a role. I proposed that Tunisia become a member instead of Kuwait.

[Question] Have there been any changes in the persons who attended the conference?

[Answer] Nothing has changed. It could be that those who attended [the summit] realized the responsibility and shouldered it. Or it could be because that attendance was restricted to the head [of the delegation] and two members.

[Question] As for the first item which deals with the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, does this imply recognition of the Zionist entity within the 1967 borders?

[Answer] There is an item in the resolution which was issued by the summit which states that the UN Security Council ensures the security, safety and the rights of all the countries in the region. The working paper, which was presented on this matter, was by those concerned in the region.

[Question] What has the conference achieved regarding the situation in Lebanon?

[Answer] Lebanon showed some reservations on some of the resolutions. This can be attributed to the conditions it is experiencing. We had differences with Lebanon over its working paper. Lebanon wanted the resolutions to include an item stating that the mandate of the Arab deterrent forces not be renewed and armed struggle from its territories not be resumed. Our reaction was that we did not have the Palestinians enter Lebanon by adopting a resolution and by the same token we cannot adopt a resolution dealing with them.

[Question] Will the Arabs recognize the new Lebanese situation?

[Answer] We have associated this recognition with the steps which Lebanon will adopt after President-Elect Bashir al-Jumayyil assumes authority. Our cooperation with him will be proportional to the policy he adopts.

[Question] Are there steps to discuss Gulf cooperation and the dispute over the area?

[Answer] Gulf cooperation has achieved qualitative and positive progress in a short time since the establishment of the GCC.

[Question] Have there been any problems in this area?

[Answer] There are really no problems.

[Question] Is there any intention to carry out a ministerial reshuffle?

[Answer] So far, there is nothing of this sort.

[Question] Do you think that the crisis which happened in the petroleum market will continue? What are the reasons?

[Answer] Undoubtedly this crisis changed the positions of some of the OPEC countries. It is regrettable that the OPEC countries did not adhere to the production guidelines or to the rates. They resorted to increasing production and lowering the price which created a mess in the petroleum market. On the other hand the industrial countries reduced their oil consumption in an unacceptable way which caused a glut in the international market and led to a reduction in the income of the OPEC countries. Demand for oil may increase in the future, but it will not be in the same way which some imagine.

[Question] Will this have an effect on the execution of projects?

[Answer] Certainly. This will have an effect on our projects and the projects of some of the area countries. Some of the countries actually cancelled some of the projects.

[Question] What do you think of religious "terrorism" in our country, particularly in schools and among children, and through the sermons which are delivered in mosques?

[Answer] I do not like to talk about things I did not see. I am not fanatic. I have no clear idea about this terrorism which you talk about. I perform Friday prayer every week in various mosques. Some of the preachers have an unsound style, but there are 20 or 30 good preachers.

CSO: 4400/475

KUWAIT

BRIEFS

KUWAIT DAILY ON EGYPT'S RETURN--Manama, 12 Sep (WAKH)--In Kuwait, the newspaper AL-WATAN comments on the issue of Egypt's return to the Arab ranks. It asks: Why is the discussion of Egypt's return postponed if we know it is only commonsense that Egypt must return to the Arab ranks? The paper says: "It is most appropriate to discuss this issue now if we want to be serious in dealing with our affairs and if we want to enhance our consciousness and spirit of responsibility." The paper adds: "It is an established fact that there has been a freeze in relations. This has been admitted by both the Egyptian and Israeli sides. It is also an established fact that Egypt is currently passing through the worst economic crisis in its contemporary history." The paper suggests the possibility of Arab economic aid to help Egypt traverse its current predicament and to hamper those who call for more leaning toward Israel. It further explains that a read-through of the resolutions of the recent Arab summit conference in Fes indicates that we all can be found more or less on the same square, and if this is so why is there hesitation in discussing Egypt's return to its natural place? [Excerpt] [GFI20956 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0740 GMT 12 Sep 82]

CSO: 4400/475

JIHAD AL-KHAZIN SATIRIZES COUNTRY'S MILITIA MENTALITY

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 123, 19-25 Jun 82 p 102

[Article by Jihad al-Khazin: "Abu-al-Layl and the Lebanese Question"]

[Text] I received news from Beirut recently to the effect that Abu-al-Layl had died in an exchange of fire.

Abu-al-Layl, in his death, probably did not merit more than a couple of lines at the bottom of an inside page of a local newspaper, since he was not the leader of a militia nor even the head of a local squad, but only an obscure fighter who had chosen for himself the name Abu-al-Layl (father of the night), a name carried by many others besides him. Nonetheless, fate willed that his life's path and my life's path should cross.

I'm writing about Abu-al-Layl because he represents in my mind a "microcosm" of the entire Lebanese crisis with its sometimes gentleness, sometimes harshness, its insanity, its dignity, its emotion, the clamour of its intimacy, the demagoguery of its politics, and the strange contradiction which makes it simultaneously a lion and a rabbit.

The first time I ever saw Abu-al-Layl his comrades were carrying him in their arms. He had been hit in the shoulder with a bullet. I was visiting some friends at the American University Hospital in Beirut and it just so happened that Abu-al-Layl came out of anesthesia to find me standing at his head.

Abu-al-Layl thanked me warmly thinking that I was the doctor who extracted the bullet from his breast and he thought from that moment on that he owed me his life and he left me the option of calling for it at any time I so desired.

In the beginning I tried to convince Abu-al-Layl that I was not a doctor, but he merely considered this to be humility on my part and he would respond by extending his arms and saying, "Whatever you want, physician." In the end I was satisfied to be a "physician" as long as this made him happy and, besides, it raised my status without my having to study.

One time Abu-al-Layl came to me "charged" to the limit. He asked me if there was anyone in the world who angered me that he could kill for me. I told him that I was not mad at anyone. Yet Abu-al-Layl loaded his machinegun and said,

"You just give me the word and I'll do away with whoever makes you mad, though he may fly with the eagles in the sky." In those days I wasn't married so I couldn't give Abu-al-Layl the name of someone who "angered" me so that he could do away with that person for me.

Some time passed before Abu-al-Layl came to me again and said that he was inviting me to dinner. It was after 8 o'clock and the streets of Beirut were deserted except for those who represented the various powers and other thieves, so I told him that it would be better for him to eat with me at my house.

Abu-al-Layl refused my invitation and took me with him into the empty streets of Beirut. I was trembling with fear. He bought a plate hummus and beans, some sandwiches and various kinds of kuftah. Then he dashed off with me to Bab Idris. Abu-al-Layl stopped the car in a completely deserted spot, gathered up some of the plates and loaded me with the others, then told me to cross the street crawling on my stomach because enemy fighters were holed up in an area less than 100 meters from us.

We entered the "command" headquarters of Abu-al-Layl and he introduced me to the young men. They included, as far as I remember, Abu-al-Jamajim (father of the skulls), Abu-al-Wayl (father of misery), Abu-'Antar, "Antar himself, Che Guevara and others.

I thought that we were going to eat, but Abu-al-Layl insisted on honoring me with some rare entertainment. Before I realized what he had in mind, Abu-al-Layl stood up and shouted at the top of his lungs addressing the fighters of the other militia. He called them by their names and started cursing them with the most repugnant of profanity. The other fighters responded, addressing the individuals in our group by name, and meting out insults that would embarrass a sailor. Then gunfire broke out between the two groups and I threw myself to the ground for safety. I soundly refused the "invitation" of Abu-al-Layl who was saying, "Is something wrong with you, physician? Come on and have some fun with us!"

After that party I decided to avoid Abu-al-Layl as much as I could. One time I firmly refused to even listen to him when he invited me to a "drug party." I made it clear to him that I did not smoke and that, therefore, it would not be possible for me to enjoy drugs.

But the last time I saw Abu-al-Layl I was not able to avoid him because he pursued me until he found me. I thought that he wanted to invite me to one of his parties, but instead he grabbed my shirt, overtaken with fright. He said that his life was in my hands, that I had rescued him once and that he was now asking me to rescue him again.

Abu-al-Layl explained to me that he had spent the previous night "fooling around" and when he confronted his wife in the morning he claimed that he had been with me in the hospital all night long helping me. He then said, "I beg you, physician. If my wife calls you tell her that I was really with you."

I was shocked that Abu-al-Layl would be afraid of a woman, though she was his wife, and I asked him what happened to all the heroism and the machinegun

bullets and the threat to slash someone from vein to vein. Abu-al-Layl came closer and whispered in my ear, "Be realistic, physician. There is not a man in the world who does not fear his wife. Whoever says otherwise is a liar."

That's the last I heard about Abu-al-Layl until I got news from Beirut of his death in a local battle.

I found myself thinking about Abu-al-Layl and about Lebanon. Abu-al-Layl, in his simplicity, spontaneity and madness, was a model of the entire crazy country.

And Abu-al-Layl is dead. He doesn't know why he fought or why he was killed. Nor does Lebanon know.

CSO: 4404/639

PLANNING MINISTRY OUTLINES ECONOMIC GROWTH

GF061207 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 6 Sep 82 p 13

[Text] Riyadh--Saudi Arabia's total revenues from oil and other sources totalled SR211 billion at the end of the second five-year development plan in 1980 compared to SR5 billion in 1970, a Planning Ministry report said. The report added that the government's expenditures increased about 34 fold from SR6 billion to SR186 billion during the same period.

It further said that government expenditures on projects showed an increase of 54 per cent from SR2 billion to SR89 billion, and its assistance and remittances jumped from SR1.7 billion to SR65 billion.

OFFICIAL STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING OTHER RESOURCES

Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 8, Aug 82 p 66

[Text]

SAUDI Arabia's Minister of Industry and Electricity, Dr Ghazi Al-Gosaibi said recently that the industrial development in the Kingdom is based on utilizing the country's comparative advantage of having abundant capital, energy and hydrocarbon resources.

The Kingdom wants to achieve the objective of "adding value to human and material resources, supplementing traditional oil exports, introducing new technologies and providing the basic linkages backwards to the raw material sector, and forwards to a wide variety of potential industries," he said.

In an article published in the Arab Gulf Journal, Gosaibi said that the aim of the Saudi industrial development program was to create a diversified and balanced economy, and shift the economy from a state of vulnerable dependance on one source of income, to a state of balance and cumulative growth.

Infrastructure

To achieve this growth, Gosaibi said, Saudi Arabia concentrated from the beginning on building the most-needed infrastructure facilities, and directed a sizeable portion of investments towards the training of manpower.

"With regard to basic and large-scale industries, the principle adopted was of full partnership with established international firms, so that the advantages of abundant and stable supply of resources could be combined with their technical, administrative and marketing experience," he said.

The Minister pointed out that during the first five-year national development plan and the first years of the second, there was a continuous emphasis on the expansion of public services and utilities. "In the later years of the second plan, concentration be-

gan to shift gradually towards the expansion of the productive base, both industrial and agricultural," he said.

"This included the development utilization of productive potentials, through the encouragement of private capital, and through the direct initiative of public capital," he added.

Gosaibi singled out two approaches adopted by the Kingdom in carrying out its industrial development policies. Firstly providing the private sector with "a package of incentives" including customs exemptions, subsidies, soft loans, longterm leasing of industrial sites at nominal rents and preferential treatment of local industries, he said.

The second approach was the government's participation in setting up industries, based on the country's hydrocarbon and mineral resources, and require large capital outlays and sophisticated technology.

Plan

He pointed out that to achieve this end the government had adopted a comprehensive plan for utilizing the Kingdom's natural resources, and assigned its implementation to three government agencies, namely the Saudi Basic Industries Corporation, Sabic, the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu, and the General Organization for Petroleum and Minerals, Petromin.

Gosaibi said that Sabic was intended to reach two complementary goals. "The first is to develop natural resources of hydrocarbons and minerals, and to convert as much of such resources as possible into industrial products."

"The second is to develop Saudi human resources through the rearing of a generation of technically orientated young men trained

in the works of industry, and capable of shouldering the responsibilities of operation, maintenance and development," he said.

Gosaibi added that realizing the state of the Saudi labor market, emphasis had been placed on extensive training programs as an integral part of the industrialization program itself. These are designed to meet project's requirements for managerial staff, engineers, technicians and workers of all categories, and to accomplish the overall objective of building up a supply of Saudi nationals that will constitute the major percentage of manpower needed to operate all projects.

CSO: 4400/458

TRADE WITH CHINESE ON THE RISE

London ARABIA in English No 12, Aug 82 p 47

[Text]

The removal of the Saudi ban on imports from mainland China has seen Sino-Saudi trade climb to record levels. Chinese exports to the kingdom, through Hong Kong intermediaries, totalled \$46.6m in 1981, despite the fact that Riyadh still recognises only Taiwan. However, trade has gone on for several years via Hong Kong: until last year, exporters had to remove Chinese labels and produce alternative certificates of origin to get round the ban.

The Chinese are understandably eager to exploit the Saudi market. Chinese exports to the kingdom to date have centred around textiles and travel goods (\$7.6m and \$6.2m respectively in 1981), but the People's Republic's state enterprises have asked their partners in Hong Kong to test the water for other consumer goods, including electronics goods. The Chinese believe that their products, which are cheaper than their Japanese and East Asian competitors, will be favoured by Hajj pilgrims from Third World

countries.

For their part, Saudi importers are said to be showing more interest in Chinese products. Several Saudi businessmen attended the recent Canton trade fair, and Chinese producers say they have won several orders from them. Some Saudi traders were also at Canton last year, and apparently there is increasing contact between Saudi importers and Hong Kong businessmen known for their links with the mainland.

At the same time, the Saudis remain major trading partners for Taiwan, whose exports to the kingdom were \$606.3m in 1981 and \$156m for first-quarter 1982.

However, Taiwan enjoys official relations and longstanding trade links with the Saudis, while the Chinese have to rely on re-export through Hong Kong. It is possible, of course, that the actual volume of Sino-Saudi trade may be a little higher than that shown by the official figures.

CSO: 4400/458

PETROCHEMICAL PROJECTS NEAR COMPLETION

London ARABIA in English No 12, Aug 82 p 47

[Text]

Saudi Arabia's petrochemical projects have overcome a number of problems and are back on their original 10-year timetable.

Construction had been hit by serious shortages of water, skilled manpower and other resources. Now it appears that the Saudis and their partners will be ready to export petrochemicals within a year.

West European producers have long viewed this prospect with dismay. However, it looks as if the impact on Western Europe will not be as great as first feared, as downstream projects of the second phase of the Saudi plan will absorb products from the plants nearing completion. This vertical integration will help soak up the additional petrochemical capacity from phase one.

Also, as most of the products from phase-two plants are for Saudi consumption, they pose only a limited threat to world markets. An exception is a proposal to build a 0.5bn tonne per year plant for the production of MTBE, a gasoline additive: in Saudi Arabia there is no regulation of lead in gasoline, and therefore no requirement for MTBE.

Phase two is also expected to include a linear low-density polyethylene (ll dpe) plant, using butene-1 as raw material.

There is also a proposal to build a 75,000 tonne per year butene-1 plant because of the current local lack of butene, which is one of the major cost disadvantages the Saudi LDpe plants will face in their early years. Three plants, two in Jubail and one in Yanbu, will produce a total of 540,000 tonnes per year of ll dpe.

Similarly, a projected industrial

plant producing (initially) nitrogen and oxygen could serve several Sabic complexes in Jubail. Methanol-fed formaldehyde and acetic acid units (the latter supporting vinyl acetate monomer production) would be directed towards domestic industries.

Among the proposals for construction at Jubail are a 95,000-tonne polystyrene plant and a facility to produce 102,000 tonnes per year of vinyl chloride monomer and 100,000 tonnes of polyvinyl chloride.

Incentives for foreign partners include low-interest loans (available at 3.6 per cent) for 60 per cent of project costs. Also, the cost of methane and ethane is temporarily fixed at 50 cents per million Btu (about a fifth of the US cost), and that will not increase until projects achieve more than a 25 per cent return of equity. Even then, prices should increase more slowly than on the open market.

Meanwhile, construction of the initial phase is well under way. More than half finished is the joint venture for a 600,000-tonne methanol plant, involving Sabic and Japan Saudi Methanol. A 500,000-tonne urea unit, owned by Sabic and Taiwan Fertiliser, is 75 per cent complete.

The Saudis are convinced they will be able to sell the output from other phase-one plants in the mid-1980s, when the world economy picks up. Product will be exported by the National Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia (NSCA), which is looking to become the major carrier of Sabic petrochemicals. NSCA's announced aim is seen as a challenge to chemical shippers who have

been hoping to pick up the Saudi trade.

Saudi projects have forced Algeria to cut its planned capacity. Sonatrach, the Algerian state-owned company, will keep its petrochemical spending down to a modest \$500m during the 1980-84 development plan. According to its deputy director-general, Yassin Fergani, the group may drop its plans to build a naphtha-fed steam cracker at Skikda. Originally the unit was to have produced 500,000 tonnes of ethylene.

Nevertheless, Sonatrach will press on with upgrading benzene, toluene and xylene output from its 15m-tonne refinery at Skikda. It also produces 120,000 tonnes per year of ethylene there, some of which is exported. But no refinery capacity expansion is planned at Skikda, the Algerians say.

CSO: 4400/458

TA'IF WATER PROJECTS

Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 8, Aug 82 p 69

[Text]

Taif, Saudi Arabia, will soon match the largest cities in the world in terms of water supply, according to a spokesman in the Taif Water and Sewerage Department.

He said that nearly 12,000 cubic meters of water will be distributed daily to the residents and vacationists in Taif.

To supplement the claim, the spokesman pointed out that nearly 800 million dollars have been set aside from this year's budget to be utilised by the Water and Sewerage Department of Taif city. He added that this is the largest allocation for water compared to other cities in the country.

Currently, he pointed out, three projects are under implementation in Taif. Two are for water and the third is a sewerage recycling plant with a capacity of 67,000 cubic meters daily. They cost 200 million dollars, 50 million dollars and 55 million dollars respectively.

The city of Al Hada has been provided with a pipeline for water distribution. The city also has three stand by reservoirs with 40,000 cubic meters capacity each. In addition, the city has also been provided with 50 water-trucks to meet the demand of the public.

The water problem faced by the city of Mecca, has been solved with the resumption of water supply, which is expected to reach

105,000 cubic meters per day by the Haj season.

Besides practical constructions, a lot of theoretical work and research is being conducted in the field of water supply by the physics department of Umul Qura University's Applied Science and Engineering Faculty.

The faculty is researching the Nu'man valley subterranean water project. This is in accordance with a contract signed with the National Science and Technology Center. The spokesman pointed out that this project is of extreme importance to the supply of drinking water to Mecca and holy shrine areas.

30 projects

Elaborating further about the nation's water supply situation, the spokesman pointed out that in 1981, 30 water supply projects were implemented. Out of these 25 are currently under execution and the rest are under study.

Where there is no direct water supply, like villages and agricultural settlements, water is supplied by trucks.

Nearly 1,050 trips are made by trucks with a 200 gallons capacity each to city areas where direct water supply has not yet reached, the spokesman pointed out.

CSO: 4400/458

SAUDI ARABIA

BRIEFS

AIR FORCE TRAINING CONTRACT RENEWED--A three-year contract with Britain to provide the Royal Saudi Arabian Air Force with training and technical services has been renewed, according to the British Embassy in Jeddah. The contract is worth SR 2 billion (\$580 million) and it maintains a nine-year link between the British and the Saudi Arabian air force. Among the provisions of the contract are British training and technical services for the King Faisal Air Academy in Riyadh and the Technical Studies Institute in Dhahran as well as maintenance and services for British-built Lightning interceptors and Strike-master jet training aircraft. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 27, 23 Aug 82 p 8]

ITALY WINS WATER PIPELINE CONTRACT--Saudi Arabia has awarded a \$425 million contract to an international consortium led by Saipem, the pipeline arm of Italy's state energy concern ENI, to build a water distribution network in southern Saudi Arabia, it was reported from Rome. The consortium will install a complete water transport system to carry water from the desalination plant at Shuqayq on the Red Sea Coast to the cities of Jizan and Abha. The project, due to be completed in three years, will be paid for in installments during that time. The order came from the Saudi state-owned Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC). Saudi Arabia is heavily dependent on desalinated water with 20 plants already in operation and another 50 planned to come onstream by the year 2000. Some of these will be built on ships which could supply different areas as the need arises. One problem associated with the use of desalinated water is the high cost of the technology and the need for large amounts of initial capital investment. Operating costs are also high, averaging \$4 per 1,000 gallons of water. A new process to be developed under a multi-million dollar collaboration agreement between the University of Toronto and the King Saud University in Riyadh could bring a considerable reduction in these costs. The terms of the recent agreement have not been disclosed, but they are understood to include advanced training as well as research. Reverse osmosis, as the new process is known, has been in the research pipeline for about 15 years. It requires only half the energy input needed in conventional distillation to produce the same amount of drinkable water, but the energy input could be cut by half again as a result of more advanced membrane materials and engineering techniques likely to come out of the Saudi-Canadian project and other similar research efforts. [Text] [[Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 27, 23 Aug 82 p 9]

CONTRACT FOR MILITARY CITY--A South Korean company has signed a 250 million dollar contract to build family housing and other facilities at King Khaled military city in Riyadh. The contract has brought the total value of the Samwhan Corporation's contracts at the military city to more than 800 million dollars, and pushed up the total value of its current projects in the Kingdom to over one billion dollars. In April, the company won a 13.5 million dollar contract as part of the third phase of Jeddah's beautification and development project. The National Commercial Bank has led-managed a 114.8 million dollar multi-purpose facility in favour of the Daelim industrial company of Seoul. The facility related to the company's 406 million dollar housing project awarded by the Saudi Ministry of Public Works and Housing in February. The facility, signed in Singapore, included medium-term loans, letters of credit, and over drafts. The ten participants included American, British and French banks. [Text] [Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 8, Aug 82 p 70]

DRINKING WATER PROJECTS PLANNED--Saudi Arabian Minister of Commerce and Acting Minister of Agriculture and Water, Dr Soliman A Soliman, recently approved a number of drinking water projects for villages in the Western Province. The aim of the projects is to bring drinking water to the villages of Mudhailif, Al-Nawaq and Al-Muayada. The plans include the setting up of water storage tanks, main pipelines, water basins and connections to houses. These will be implemented within ten months by national companies, at a total cost of 1.4 million dollars. These projects come within the Ministry's plan to provide drinking water to all villages and cities in the Kingdom. The Ministry also approved the award of a contract for digging five bore wells in Baha and Bal-jarashi regions, at a total cost of 605 thousand dollars. The contract, awarded to a national company, is to be completed within one year. These projects also aim to meet drinking water requirements of the people in the region, in keeping with the plan for urban development. A contract for digging two more wells within five months, one at Al-Ziyad village in Al-Qunfudah, and another at Al-Ziyad village in Al-Qunfudah, and another at Harza in Medina, at a total cost of 142 thousand dollars, has also been approved. [Text] [Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 8, Aug 82 p 70]

BORDER SECURITY FORCE HOUSING PROJECTS--Prince Naif Bin Abdul Aziz, the Minister of the Interior of Saudi Arabia, recently signed three contracts in Taif for executing the first stage of the housing project of the Border Security Force Directorate, reports the Saudi Gazette. The contracts are together worth 300 million dollars. Of these three contracts, two were signed with Saudi firms and one with a Korean company. The Minister said the contracts are part of an integrated housing project. The first 100 million dollar contract signed with a national company related to the construction of 252 villas besides 27 flats, a mosque, a commercial center, primary schools for boys and girls, a sports center, a swimming pool, an electricity generating plant, a desalination and sewerage plant and purification plants. The second contract signed with another national company related to the construction of 168 villas and 27 flats with all facilities in Issawiah. Under the third contract signed with a Korean company, 200 housing units will be constructed in Arar at a cost of 80 million dollars. Prince Naif said the project will be provided with parking lots, water and sewerage network, gardens and telephones. [Text] [Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 8, Aug 82 p 71]